



Plumbago auricalata

A FOUR-MINUTE PRESENTATION BY KIM SCHULTZ



Names & Origin

Scientific name: *Plumbago auriculata*

Pronunciation: plum-BAY-go or-ik-yew-LAY-tah

Auriculata meaning "with ears"

Family: Plumbaginaceae

AKA Cape Lumbago, Sky Flower, Leadwort

Origin: South Africa

Plant Characteristics



EVERGREEN PERENNIAL

- Dicot, ornamental perennial for frost-free areas
- Grown as a houseplant in freezing areas, with a 5-7 year lifespan
- Low maintenance, moderate to low water requirements

GROWTH HABIT

- Big, sprawling shrub can be grown as a groundcover or climber with support
- In native habitat, can reach 2-3 m. (6-10 ft.) tall and 2.5-3 m. (8-10 ft.) wide

ORNAMENTAL

- Has consistent blue, white, or pink scent-free flowers
- Great for covering slopes and erosion control
- its tenacity can make it invasive

Plant Care

LOW MAINTENANCE

- Full sun gets the best blooms, may tolerate part shade
- Drought tolerant with well-draining soil
- No major diseases
- Feeding during the bloom season
- Fast-growing, reaching full size within a year

DRAWBACKS

- Pests: whitefly, spider mites, chili thrips
- Causes contact dermatitis
- Very difficult to take out once established





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Should I Get One?

- Do you have a lot of sunny, frost-free space?
- Do you have a slope, bank, retaining wall, or something you need covered?
- Are you fighting deer, rabbits, or salt air?
- Do you have gardening gloves?
- Do you enjoy pruning?
- Are you prepared to love it always?



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Nursery

THANK YOU

REFERENCES

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