

PERENNIAL

PROPAGATION

Caryopteris

Caryopteris x clandonensis



TRAY & ROOTING

Form	Unrooted Cuttings (URC)
Rooting Hormone	Yes
Tray Size(s)	50, 105
Plants Per Cell	1
Wks. From Stick To Transplant	6-8
Pinch?	Optional
Days from stick to pinch	17-21

CULTIVAR LIST

First Choice

FERTILITY

Fertilize Through Mist?	No
Fertilizer Rate	100-150 ppm N (20-6-22 or 22-5-16 [15-0-15 under low-light conditions])
EC Range	Moderate: (2.0-3.5 mS via SME)
pH Range	5.8-6.4

TEMPERATURE

Average Soil Temperature	65-72°F (18-22°C)
Average Air Temperature	65-72°F (18-22°C)

IRRIGATION

Irrigation Frequency	Level 3: Keep media moderately moist with mild dry cycles
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LIGHT

Supplemental	No
Benefits From Shade?	No

POTENTIAL DISEASES

Botrytis, downy mildew

POTENTIAL PESTS

aphids, whitefly

PGR SUGGESTIONS

- Optional 300-500 ppm Florel (3.9% Ethephon)
- Optional 3-5 ppm Sumagic (0.055% Uniconazole)

TIPS

- A propagation pinch and a Florel (3.9% Ethephon) application will help with proper branching.

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FINISHING

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VERNALIZATION

Vernalization Required?	No
Vernalization Duration Minimum	N/A
Vernalization Temperature	N/A

CONTAINER SIZE	PLANTS PER POT	TRANSPLANT TO FINISH (WEEKS)
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1 Gallon (16 cm)	1	10-12
2 Gallon (22 cm)	2	10-12
3 Gallon (30c m)	3	10-12

FERTILITY

Fertilizer Rate	150-200 ppm N (20-6-22 or 22-5-16 [15-0-15 under low-light conditions])
EC Range	High: (3.5-5 mS via SME)
pH Range	5.8-6.4

TEMPERATURE

Day Temperature	65-75°F (18-24°C)
Night Temperature	55-65°F (13-18°C)

IRRIGATION

Irrigation Frequency	Level 4: Keep media moderately moist at all times
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LIGHT

Photoperiodic requirements	Long day: 12+ hours daily
Supplemental?	Daylength Extension
Benefits From Shade?	No

PINCHING

Finishing Pinch?	Optional
Transplant to pinch (days)	14-21

POTENTIAL DISEASES

Botrytis, downy mildew

POTENTIAL PESTS

aphids, whitefly

PGR SUGGESTIONS

- Bonzi (0.4% Paclobutrazol) 5-40ppm spray'
- 5-8 ppm Sumagic (0.055% Uniconazole)
- 2500 ppm B-Nine (85% Daminozide) as needed



TIPS

- Final pinch 4 weeks after transplanting. Heavy PGR applications are required.
- Full sun (preferably outdoor production) and drip irrigation is the best system for finishing.
- The large and heavy root system requires additional irrigation. Make sure Caryopteris is not allowed to dry- out completely.

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FEATURES AND BENEFITS

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KEY INFORMATION

First Year Flowering?	Yes
Bloom Time	Summer to Autumn
Exposure	Full Sun
Hardiness Zone	5-12
Height	48-60 inches (122-152 cm)
Width	60 inches (152 cm)

DESCRIPTION

One of the best late summer to early fall perennials with grey-green foliage and vivid blue-purple flowers.

CONSUMER APPEAL

- The blueish purple blooms provide bees and butterflies with a late-season nectar and pollen source.
- Caryopteris is easy to grow in moderately moist well drained soil where it appreciates an increased organic matter content. Although 'Dark Knight' is very tolerant of drought conditions once established, wet or poorly drained soils should be avoided.

GARDEN ATTRIBUTES

- The showy fragrant blooms make excellent cut-flowers. The foliage also has a pleasant aroma when brushed.
- Delightful when sprinkled throughout large lush beds of perennials, along the foundation of a home, or as a shaped hedge. Due to its drought tolerance, 'Dark Knight' is considered a xeriscaping plant.
- In northern climates, Caryopteris is classified as a "sub-shrub" meaning that it dies back to the ground during the winter and reestablishes itself from the root system the following year. To ensure a good growing habit, remove the previous year's woody stems to give the new foliage space to grow. In general, younger growth is far more floriferous so homeowners should remove at least 1/3 of the old stems every year if growing Caryopteris in a warmer climate.

NATIVITY

Found in East Asia including Mongolia, China, Korea, and Japan.

COMPANION PLANTS

Sedum, Gaillardia, Coreopsis, Salvia, Delosperma, Verbena, Hypericum

COMMON NAME(S)

bluebeard, blue spirea, blue mist



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