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John Wood Blue Flag Iris

Iris versicolor 'John Wood'

Height: 32 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 2a

Other Names: Blueflag Iris, Harlequin Blueflag Iris

Description:

An attractive variety, producing wide clumps of red-violet blooms with yellow signals in mid-spring; blooms for a long period; great massed in the garden or mixed border

Ornamental Features

John Wood Blue Flag Iris has masses of beautiful violet flag-like flowers with purple overtones, white throats and a yellow flare at the ends of the stems in mid spring, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its sword-like leaves remain green in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

John Wood Blue Flag Iris is an herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

John Wood Blue Flag Iris is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Water Gardens
- Bog Gardens



John Wood Blue Flag Iris flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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Planting & Growing

John Wood Blue Flag Iris will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is quite adaptable, preferring to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.