BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Agastache, is a genus of 9-12 species of perennial herbs in the family Lamiaceae, native to eastern Asia and North America. Also known as hyssop or hummingbird mint, these plants are famous for their ability to attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Most species are very upright, with stiff, angular stems clothed in toothed-edged, lance shaped leaves. Upright spikes of tubular, two-lipped flowers develop at the stem tips in summer. The popularity of these species as garden perennials has increased in recent decades and led to significant developments in breeding of hybrids for various uses and characteristics. Recently more seed raised varieties have been introduced. These compact, fragrant varieties are highly popular and favoured colours range from traditional blue shades to pink and white, yellow and orange varieties. Van Hemert and Co. Seeds first introduced Agastache hybrida 'Arcado Pink', a Fleuroselect Approved Novelty in 2010, and now extend their Agastache offering with 'Astello Indigo', a strong and even more compact variety and a worthy winner of the 2012 Fleuroselect Gold Medal.

CAPTION

A fragrant, versatile beauty with unlimited usage potential

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Novelty : New type, plant habit, colour

Characteristics

Colour : Blue-violet Flower : Single

Flowering : July to October

Period

Type : Perennial, O.P., diploid

Use : Bedding plant, pot plant, container

Plant : Height 50 cm, spread 35 cm, compact dome shape

Seed : 3000 seeds per gram

Growing : Autumn or Spring for pot production, at 20 - 25°C. 1 to 5 seeds per plug depending on final pot

size. After 3 weeks grow on at 10 to 18° C . Overwinter seedlings frost free. Transplant in larger pots from an autumn sowing in early spring. From a spring sowing transplant the plugs after 5 to 10 weeks. In 9 cm 1 plant, in 18 to 22 cm 3-5 plants per plug, one plug per pot. Grow at full sunlight for good flower colour. From a spring sowing flowering starts after 15-20 weeks. First-year

flowering per

Planting : 3 plants per 18 cm container or 12 plants per m², distance 30 x 30 cm in sunny spot.

Ref: April 29 2013

 ${\it http://www.fleuroselect.com/goldmedal/details.aspx?id=1120\&lang=en}$

