



Description

- ✓ Uniform, vigorous plants
- ✓ Scented, star shaped blooms
- ✓ Long flowering season

Laurentia Avant-garde Blue and Avant-garde Pink impressed the Fleuroselect judges by their earliness and their vigorous flowering. Emerging as the top-scorers in the Fleuroselect trials, both these F1 hybrids have certainly earned their 2007 Gold Medals. The appeal of Avant-garde Blue and Pink lies in their vitality and their long flowering season. They also have excellent basal branching and form a splendid bushy plant of 25 -30 cm in height and 30 -35 cm in width. The striking star-

formed flowers delightfully cover the whole plant.

In Detail

Laurentia is not one of the best known bedding plants. This may all change with the introduction of Laurentia Avant-garde Blue and Avant-garde Pink. Each of these F1 hybrids was awarded with a 2007 Gold Medal. In comparison to all other entries sent in for trials, Avant-garde Blue scored the highest number of points from the Fleuroselect judges. The introduction of these F1's gives Laurentia a giant leap forwards. Once upon a time, about fourteen or fifteen years ago, Laurentia Blue Stars was introduced to the market. While it did sell well in countries such as Japan; sales in Europe and the United States were a lot less.

The hybridisation took years of hard work and the results are certainly good, as proven by the two Gold Medals. Avant-garde Blue and Avant-garde Pink are outstanding because of their vigorous growing habit and long flowering period. They also have good basal branching. Combine this to their compactness and the result is a beautiful bushy plant of between 25 to 30 cm high and 30 to 35 cm wide.

The remarkable star shaped flowers cover the whole plant. Another noteworthy characteristic of these Gold Medal winners is the excellent ability to cope with heat. It is a foregone conclusion that these F1s will become the new norm for Laurentia in Japan. This very same heat resistant quality makes this special bedding plant extremely suitable for the Southern states of the United States such as California and also for countries around the Mediterranean in Southern Europe.

Avant-garde Blue and Avant-garde Pink do well in various different pot sizes, ranging from 10.5 cm to 1 litres or 1 gallon pots. The star-shaped flowers of these Laurentia will be the centre of everybody's attention when displayed on plant benches in the retail trade. Laurentia may still be a relatively insignificant product in many parts of the world, however Avant-garde Blue and Avant-garde Pink with all their positive qualities may soon bring a considerable change to that.

Technical information

Novelty Characteristic: First blue F1 hybrid in this genus, resulting in earliest blue variety about 3 weeks earlier to flower and much more vigorous.

Colour: Blue

Flower: 3.5 cm, single

Flowering Period: Mid May to first frost

Type: Annual, F1 Hybrid, Diploid

Use: Bedding plant. **Also ideal for:** Patio, Alpine & Rockery.

Position In: Full Sun

Seed: 10,000 seeds per gram

Plant: 25-30 cm high and 30-35 cm spread, green leaf colour, dentate leaf shape

Sowing: Sow January to March. Sow seed in pots on the surface of the sowing mix. Lightly cover seed with vermiculite. Place pots in a propagator or seal inside a polythene bag and place at 15-21C (60-70F) until after germination. Transplant seedlings into pots when large enough to handle. Plant out after all risk of frost.

Planting: 40 cm x 40 cm planting distance, half hardy

More Info:

Caution: Irritant to skin and eyes.

Registration details

Breeder: Thompson & Morgan

Entry number: 08/05

<https://www.fleuroselect.com/awarded-varieties/variety/f1-avant-garde-blue/>

<https://www.thompson-morgan.com/p/laurentia-avantgarde-blue-f1-hybrid/4270TM>