

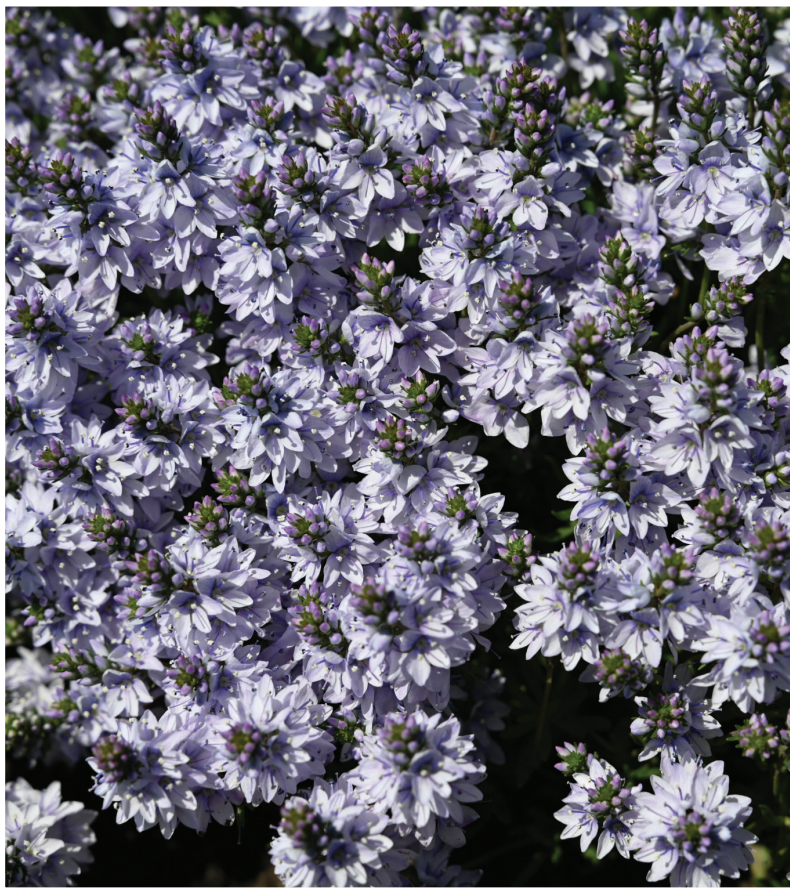


Chicagoland Grows®, Inc.

Plant Introduction Program – Plant Release Bulletin #59

Veronica prostrata 'Moon River' Speedwell PPAF

Plantaginaceae (Plantain family)



Description

Chicagoland Grows® is proud to present its latest speedwell cultivar, 'Moon River'! In early spring, fresh green foliage emerges from the crown and quickly fills in to form a green carpet. Shortly thereafter, stubby inflorescences are borne densely above the foliage. Flowers bloom for three to four weeks in May in Zone 6a. While flower petals are white, the stamens and petals' veins are bright purple, giving the floral display a unique glow. After blooming, foliage remains vibrant green through summer and well into fall. Once a frost arrives, the semi-evergreen foliage persists but takes on a bronze tone. Year-round, 'Moon River' retains a short, pancake-like habit that widens very slowly over time. Ten-year-old plants did not reach more than 24 inches in width and showed no dieback in their centers, as is common in other speedwell cultivars. This manageable size makes 'Moon River' highly versatile; it can be planted at the front of garden beds, along paths, or just about anywhere that larger neighbors won't obscure it.

Parentage



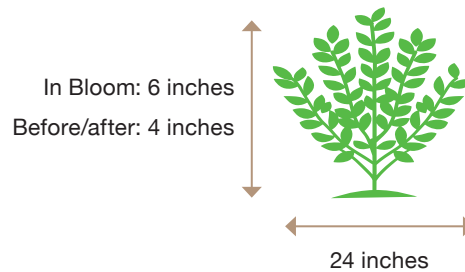
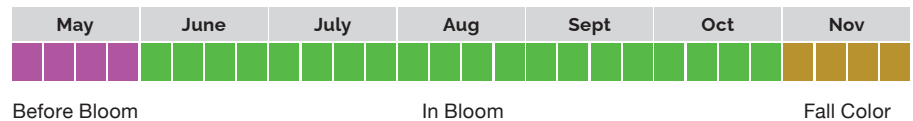
'*V. prostrata*'
'Mrs. Holt'

X



'*V. prostrata*'
'Ice Blue'

Bloom Season



Plant Habit

- Short, prostrate habit forms a dense, slow-spreading mat
- No "donutting" observed (die-out of plant's center as it matures)

Pest/Disease Issues

- No disease/pest issues observed
- No deer/rabbit browsing observed

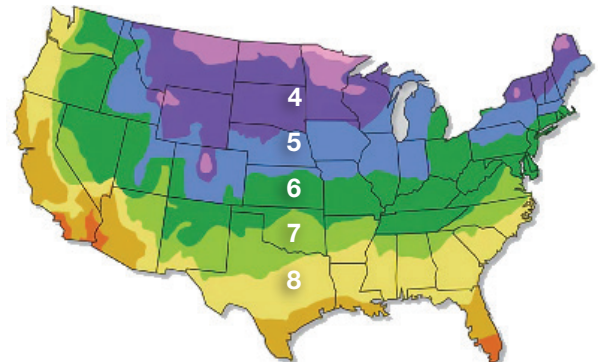
Culture

- Sun: full sun to part sun
- Soil: adaptable, well-drained preferred
- Water: irrigate first year to establish, unnecessary thereafter
- Maintenance: none required; may prune away spent inflorescences
- Misc: more tolerant of wet conditions than comparable cultivars

Propagation

- Take shoot tip cuttings in spring, dip in 1,250 ppm KIBA for 5 seconds, and stick in 2 parts perlite to 1 part peat moss in 72-cell trays under fog set to 98%; remove from fog after 4 weeks, pot up after 2 more weeks
- Larger stock plants can be divided in spring or early fall, as dense roots can be found under most of the crown

Hardiness USDA Zones 4-8



Chicagoland Grows® is a nonprofit corporation of the Chicago Botanic Garden, The Morton Arboretum and the Ornamental Growers Association of Northern Illinois (OGA). The Chicagoland Grows® Plant Introduction Program is dedicated to the evaluation, selection, production and marketing of recommended and new plant cultivars. Plants selected for the program have proven to be adaptable to the Midwest and are made available to the commercial and retail landscape industry through an international network of growers and propagators ©2025 Chicago Botanic Garden