
ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE

Environmental Horticulture #EH427



VERONICA

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMER CARE

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INTRODUCTION

- Common name: Speedwell
- Scientific name: Veronica sp.
- Native to temperate areas of the Northern Hemisphere
- Plants form 1-3' tall mounds
- Leaves are glossy and range from green to gray-green in color
- Narrow spikes of tiny flowers form in midsummer
- Flowers can be blue, pink, or white
- Hardy in zones 3-8

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Prefers full sun but will tolerate some shade
- Requires moist, well drained media
- Water when rainfall totals less than 1" per week
- Use a 2" layer of mulch
- Tall varieties may require staking

PROPAGATION

- Propagate by division in spring
- Space plants 1-2' apart
- Plants should be divided every 3-4 years

DISORDERS

- Powdery mildew (*Sphaerotheca sp.*)
 - White coating appears on leaves
 - Leaves wilt, brown, and die
 - Reduce humidity and remove infected foliage
- Downy mildew (*Peronospora sp.*)
 - Purplish-grey, fuzzy growth appears on leaves
 - Provide good air circulation
 - Clear away plant debris in fall
- Smut (*Entyloma sp.*)
 - White pustules appear on leaves
 - Leaves dry, turn brown, and shrivel
 - Remove infected foliage
- Leaf spot (*Septoria veronicae*)
 - Circular spots vary in color from violet to brown
 - Leaves eventually brown and die
 - Remove infected foliage, including fallen leaves
- 'Giles van Hees': medium bright pink flowers
- 'Sunny Border Blue': deep blue flowers
- 'Waterperry': light blue flowers
- *Veronica austriaca*
 - 'Crater Lake Blue': deep blue flowers
- *Veronica repens*
 - 'Sunshine': small white flowers, chartreuse leaves
- *Veronica spicata*
 - 'Goodness Grows': blue flower spikes
 - 'Icicle': pure white flower spikes
 - 'Red Fox': deep fuschia-pink flowers
 - 'Royal Candles': violet-blue flowers
- *Veronica umbrosa*
 - 'Georgia Blue': round blue flowers, low spreading foliage

CONSUMER CARE

- Remove spent flowers to promote a longer blooming period
- Attracts butterflies
- Makes an excellent cut flower

CULTIVARS AND SPECIES

- *Veronica*

References

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Veronica_\(plant\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Veronica_(plant))
- <http://www.yardener.com/Veronica.html>
- <http://www.garden.org/plantguide/index.php?q=show&id=2060>