

# Lakeshore Garden Centres

4102 - 11th St. West  
P.O. Box 2A RR3  
Saskatoon, SK, S7K 3J6  
phone: 306-382-2077

info@lakeshoregardencentre.com  
www.lakeshoregardencentre.com

## 21st Century Blue Phlox



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*Phlox drummondii* '21st Century Blue'

Height: 10 inches

Spread: 10 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: 2a

Group/Class: 21st Century Series

#### Description:

A low maintenance, vigorous branching variety producing full mounds of attractive, brightly colored blooms from spring to frost; frost tolerant; an excellent choice for garden beds, borders and containers; attracts pollinators



21st Century Blue Phlox flowers  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

#### Ornamental Features

21st Century Blue Phlox is smothered in stunning blue star-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems from early to late spring. Its tiny needle-like leaves remain emerald green in colour throughout the year.

#### Landscape Attributes

21st Century Blue Phlox is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with a mounded form. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

21st Century Blue Phlox is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

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### Planting & Growing

21st Century Blue Phlox will grow to be about 10 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 10 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evergreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average conditions that are neither too wet nor too dry, and is very intolerant of standing water. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for alkaline soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider covering it with a thick layer of mulch in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. 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.

21st Century Blue Phlox is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.