## **Stonegate Gardens**

### **Delphina Dark Blue Black Bee Larkspur**

339 South Great R Lincoln, MA, 01773 phone: 781-259-8884 lynne@stonegategardens.com www.stonegategardens.com



Delphina<sup>™</sup> Dark Blue Black Bee Larkspur Delphinium 'Delphina Dark Blue Black Bee'

Height: 18 inches Spread: 10 inches Spacing: 8 inches Sunlight: O Hardiness Zone: 4a Group/Class: Delphina Series

#### **Description:**

A naturally compact selection presenting elegant dark blue flowers with a black bee; dense flower spikes with strong stems and excellent uniformity; ideal for beds, borders, or containers; first year flowering

#### **Ornamental Features**

Delphina Dark Blue Black Bee Larkspur features bold spikes of deep purple flowers with blue overtones and black centers rising above the foliage from late spring to mid summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its deeply cut lobed leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.

#### Landscape Attributes

Delphina Dark Blue Black Bee Larkspur is an herbaceous perennial with a rigidly upright and towering form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects
- Disease

Delphina Dark Blue Black Bee Larkspur is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Delphina Dark Blue Black Bee Larkspur flowers Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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#### **Planting & Growing**

Delphina Dark Blue Black Bee Larkspur will grow to be about 14 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 8 inches apart. It tends to be leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and should be underplanted with lower-growing perennials. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets. 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.

Delphina Dark Blue Black Bee Larkspur 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 larger 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.