



## Blue Buddha Castor Oil Plant

*Ricinus 'Blue Buddha'*

Height: 7 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Spacing: 3 feet

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Castor Bean Plant

### Description:

This spectacular, fast growing plant is primarily cultivated for the tropical look of its large blue-green palmate leaves; an excellent accent, border or container plant that is visually stunning

### Ornamental Features

Blue Buddha Castor Oil Plant's attractive enormous lobed palmate leaves emerge coppery-bronze in spring, turning bluish-green in color the rest of the year on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth.

### Landscape Attributes

Blue Buddha Castor Oil Plant is an herbaceous annual with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its wonderfully bold, coarse texture can be very effective in a balanced garden composition.

This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Blue Buddha Castor Oil Plant is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use



*Blue Buddha Castor Oil Plant flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Blue Buddha Castor Oil Plant in bloom*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

### **Planting & Growing**

Blue Buddha Castor Oil Plant will grow to be about 7 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 3 feet apart. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. 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.