

# *Plant "Imagination"*



**Centaurea montana** – attracts butterflies and bees to its vivid blue flowers.

. Although it is not edible, the plant has medicinal applications.

[Centaurea montana](#), commonly called bachelor's button, is a member of the Asteraceae family. Plants generally reach a height of 24 inches and spread from 24 to 36 inches.

If you cut back hard after blooming by removing all flowering stems and leaving just the basal foliage the plant is likely to produce a few more flowers as the garden winds down in the fall.

The buds have ornamental value. The foliage has a silvery cast, and both foliage and stems are slightly woolly to the touch.

Plant this drought tolerant plant in soil that is not too rich and in full sun. Avoid too much shade or wet feet. Centaurea montana is hardy in zones 3 through 8, and does best in cool Northern gardens. Deadhead this plant unless you want it to self seed.

Plant Centaurea montana in your cutting garden in a group for the most impact. Cut flowers are long lasting and can be used to make bouquets.