

Cultural Information – Caryopteris
(kar-ee-OP-ter-iss)

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| <u>Light:</u> | Full sun, a southern exposure is best. |
| <u>Temperature:</u> | Hardy to -20° and tolerant of hot summers when planted in the ground. |
| <u>Humidity:</u> | Humidity is not an issue in its culture. |
| <u>Watering:</u> | Good drought tolerance once established. Water under severe drought conditions or when first establishing the plants in the garden. |
| <u>Fertilizer:</u> | Moderate to low levels of fertilizer. Under most garden soil conditions, little if any fertilizer is needed. If feeding, do so in early spring so as to not force soft, late growth. Use a low balanced fertilizer no higher than a 15-15-15. |
| <u>Pruning:</u> | Plants can be cutback at the end of the growing season or in early spring as needed to maintain height and form. In northern areas, it will die back some and then dead wood should be removed in the spring. |
| <u>Insects and Disease:</u> | Few problems with insects or diseases. |
| <u>Comments</u> | Caryopteris are easy to grow perennial shrubs that bring a dash of blue flowers to the late summer garden. They flower on the current season's growth so plants that are pruned in early spring will flower in the current growing season. As they have an open, sprawling nature, annual pruning does help with form as well as planting in moderately poor soils. |