

## Scaevola Blue Fan

(*Scaevola aemula*)

A Ball FloraPlant Product

### Propagation

- Choose a well-drained medium with an EC of 0.75 to 0.80 mmhos and a pH of 5.8 to 6.2.
- Stick cuttings within 12 to 24 hours of arrival. Cuttings can be stored overnight, if necessary, at 45 to 50°F (7 to 10°C).
- Soil temperature should be maintained at 70 to 73°F (20 to 23°C) until roots are visible. Uniform soil temperature is critical to achieve uniform, timely rooting of Scaevola. Temperature must be consistent across the propagation bench as well as throughout the day.
- Once roots are visible, the media should be kept moderately wet and never saturated. This will prevent iron deficiency and the associated chlorotic foliage which can develop.
- Begin fertilization with 75 to 100 ppm N when roots become visible. Increase to 150 to 200 ppm N as roots develop.
- As the rooted cuttings develop, high light and moderate air temperatures should eliminate the need for chemical plant growth regulators (PGRs).
- Blue Print, Blue Ribbon, Blue Fan, Brilliant and White Cloud Scaevola do not require pinching during propagation. However, to improve branching and habit, plants can be pinched 7 to 10 days before transplanting.
- Blue Print, Blue Ribbon, Blue, Brilliant and White Cloud Fan Scaevola rooted cuttings should be ready for transplanting 24 to 28 days after sticking.

### Growing On to Finish

#### Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.8 to 6.2.

#### Temperature

**Nights:** 59 to 65°F (15 to 18°C)

**Days:** 74 to 79°F (23 to 26°C)

#### Light

- Keep light intensities above 5,000 f.c. (50,000 Lux) while maintaining moderate temperatures.
- Low light levels can cause stem stretch and poor flowering.
- Blue Print, Blue Ribbon, Blue Fan, Brilliant and White Cloud Scaevola will flower from mid-Spring until Fall, although shortest crop times will occur under the warmer conditions of late Spring and Summer.

### Water

- During the first 10 to 14 days, water media sparingly and never saturate. Allow media to dry somewhat between waterings.
- When growing Scaevola, the first sign of over-watering is yellowing of the youngest leaves and poor root development.

### Fertilizer

- Blue Print, Blue Ribbon, Blue Fan, Brilliant and White Cloud Scaevola have moderate to heavy fertilizer requirements to keep the plants growing vigorously.
- Use a balanced fertilizer at 175 to 225 ppm every watering to ensure maximum growth and flowering.
- Excessive phosphorous and ammoniacal nitrogen will promote unwanted vegetative growth. Both should be provided in very limited quantities.
- Controlled-release fertilizer can be used to supplement a liquid feed program.
- Leach pots periodically with clear water to prevent build-up of salts.

### Pinching

- Blue Print, Blue Ribbon, Blue Fan, Brilliant and White Cloud Scaevola should be pinched 7 to 10 days after transplanting. When pinched, plants should be actively growing with roots at or near the edge of the pot.
- Plants can be sheared 1 to 2 times as needed if the crop must be held.

### Controlling Growth

- When grown with recommended light levels as well as proper soil and air temperatures, Blue Print, Blue Ribbon, Blue Fan, Brilliant and White Cloud Scaevola will generally not need plant growth regulators.
- Bonzi applied as a spray (20 to 40 ppm) is very effective at controlling growth.
- Mature plants which are approaching saleable size can be drenched with Bonzi (1 to 3 ppm) to significantly slow vegetative growth while allowing flowering to continue.
- These recommendations for plant growth regulators should be used only as general guidelines. Growers must trial all chemicals under their particular conditions.

## Common Problems

**Insects:** Aphids, thrips, whitefly, spider mites.

**Diseases:** Botrytis, Rhizoctonia, Pythium.

All Blue Print, Blue Ribbon, Blue Fan, Brilliant and White Cloud Scaevola cuttings are derived from culture and virus-indexed stock from the **Ball Certified Plants®** program.

**Problem:** Plant collapse

**Causes:** Wet media for an extended period (Pythium, Botrytis)

**Problem:** Excess vegetative growth

**Causes:** High ammonia concentration in the soil; Over-fertilization under low light conditions; Low light and over-watering; wet media

**Problem:** Poor branching

**Causes:** Low fertilization during early stages

**Problem:** Foliage necrosis

**Causes:** Drying out the plant between irrigations; High soluble salts in the soil; Powdery mildew

**Problem:** Foliage chlorosis

**Causes:** Low temperatures

## Blue Print, Blue Ribbon &, Blue Fan, Brilliant & White Cloud Crop Scaevola Crop Schedule & Uses Unrooted Cuttings:

4-In. (10-Cm) Pot 1 PP\*: 8-11 weeks

6-In. (15-Cm) Pot 2 PP\*: 10-12 weeks

10-In. (25-Cm) Hanging Basket 3 to 4 PP\*: 13-16 weeks

12-In. (30-Cm) Hanging Basket 4 to 5 PP\*: 15-19 weeks

## Rooted Cuttings:

4-In. (10-Cm) Pot 1 PP\*: 5-7 weeks

6-In. (15-Cm) Pot 2 PP\*: 7-8 weeks

10-In. (25-Cm) Hanging Basket 3 to 4 PP\*: 10-12 weeks

12-In. (30-Cm) Hanging Basket 4 to 5 PP\*: 12-15 weeks

\*PP: Plants per pot or basket

**NOTE:** Growers should use the information presented here as a starting point. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year and

greenhouse environmental conditions. Chemical and PGR recommendations are only guidelines. It is the responsibility of the applicator to read and follow all the current label directions for the specific chemical being used in accordance with all regulations.

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