

Brunonia australis – Blue Pincushion

This charming plant has a rosette of grey-green obovate leaves to 15cm long producing a flower stem to 20-30 cm long. Cornflower blue flowers are produced in spring and summer. Once established this plant is extremely hardy.

Propagation

PRE-TREATMENT – The strike rate of seed is increased by the use of smoke treatment. The simplest method of this treatment is to place a small pile (several inches) of dry leaves on the surface of your germinating mixture, set this alight and allow it to burn down. Remove any surface detritus and then lightly scuff the surface and proceed to plant your seed as normal. Use a pottery or other heat resistant container for smoking.

SOW – In warm areas at any time. In colder areas after danger of frost has passed.

CULTIVATION – This plant grows as a herb and can be planted in position in the garden, tub or pot or raised as a seedling in any good propagation mix. Plant out when seedlings are large enough to handle. No pretreatment of seed is required.

WHERE TO GROW – In a well-drained position with full sun. Takes most soil types.

