

Fairy Fan-Flower *Scaevola aemula* 'Purple Fanfare'



NATIVE PLANT NOTES

Description

This profusely flowering, quick-growing groundcover forms plants to a height of 30 mm and a width of 0.6 m. It is most suitable for rockeries, hanging baskets, mass planting and as a substitute for ornamental annuals, e.g. petunias. Purple Fanfare is a must for every home garden.

Flowers

The five-petalled mauve/purple flowers of the plants are most abundant during the early summer months. However, it is possible to maintain flowering all year round.

Growing conditions

Purple Fanfare can be grown in a range of well-drained soils but is ideally suited to coastal planting as this is its natural habitat. It is best planted during the winter months and grown in full sun, although it will tolerate partial shade.

Watering

To maximise display, this *Scaevola* appreciates being watered twice a week at the base of the plant. Open mulch will help to conserve moisture.

Pruning

Light, regular pruning is the key to getting the best out of the species.

Fertiliser

Apply slow release native blend 8–9 month fertiliser at planting and annually as required in spring.

Pests and diseases

Purple Fanfare can be susceptible to scale, mealybugs and a *botrytis* fungal mould, although these are not common when it is grown in appropriate conditions.

Miscellaneous

This plant is relatively short-lived with best results achieved in its first year, although it may live longer in optimum conditions. If vigour is lost, as tends to happen over the winter months, it is best to remove and replace plants.



Further Information

Gardening Advisory Service, a free service provided by Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners.
Phone: (08) 9480 3672 or Email: garden.advice@bgpa.wa.gov.au.

Pest and Diseases Information Service, Department of Agriculture and Food.
Freecall 1800 084 881 Email: info@agric.wa.gov.au or visit www.agric.wa.gov.au.