

Baptisia x variicolor 'Twilite' PPAF 
Twilite Prairie Blues False Indigo

Flower description / bloom time

Dark chocolate/purple flowers highlighted by lemon yellow tips appear on tall stems up to 32 inches above the foliage for a striking effect.
Bloom time: approximately three weeks from late May into June.
Flowers fade to violet purple.

Flowers are slow to establish and may not bloom in year one. Good cutting flower. Attracts many types of butterflies.



Foliage interest – color/texture

Clean blue-green to blue-grey foliage. In partial shade, foliage will present as overall green. Black seedpods create winter interest.

Habit and growth rate observations

Nice, clean shrub-like habit. Exhibits slow growth the first year. Grows 3 feet tall and wide when mature and may create an overall rounded form.

Site preference – soil & light

Evaluation sites ranged from full sun to part shade. Plants became floppy on shadier sites. 'Twilite' was successful on sites ranging from well-drained soil to heavy clay.

Successes and possible drawbacks - how to overcome them

Cut back to the ground in the spring. Some plants attracted Japanese beetles in 2010 but damage was not enough to disfigure. Cage in early spring if preference is for upright plant.



Notes from growers/retailers

Slow yet excellent grower with low maintenance requirements. Grows slowly when young so it may be difficult to find full pots on the retail table

Best combinations

Coreopsis 'Golden Showers', Geranium sanguinum, Stokesia 'Mary Gregory', Sedum 'Neon', Iris hybrids, and ornamental

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grasses. Use *Nepeta* at the base to layer in the garden.



Parting "SHOT" 

Overall evaluation results were Good/3.5.

Recommended for the texture and seasonal interest. Twilite's large habit creates an excellent backdrop for a deep border or structural accent. Standout glowing purple flower attractive to butterflies.

Native Note

Baptisia attracts 15 species of butterflies and moths in our area that use this plant as a caterpillar host: eastern tailed blue, locust underwing, clover butterfly. See: www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder