



Clematis sapphire indigo (*Sapphire Indigo*)

Angie Litchy, UMN Extension Crow Wing County Master Gardener Volunteer

Clematis is a compact, multi-stemmed woody vine. Its showy indigo star-shaped flowers bloom throughout the summer. Clematis can either be trained to climb up a trellis or can be a ground cover with other plants. It is also good for small spaces, patios, and containers. It is a great plant for all levels alike.

Type	Perennial
Hardiness Zone	4 - 9
Sun	Full sun to part shade
Bloom Time	June to August
Height	3' - 4'
Spread	3' - 4'
Tolerance	Deer and black walnut trees
Attracts	Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
Additional Features	Deer and rabbit resistant

Soil and Site Recommendations

- Drainage: well-drained soil
- Soil pH: slightly acidic to neutral
- Type: sandy, loamy, moist/wet soil

Planting Recommendations

- Type: potted plant
- When to plant: spring, after last frost
- Depth of planting: crown of plant should rest just at or above soil surface
- Mulching: apply thick root mulch in spring to retain moisture, also in late fall to protect against harsh winter conditions.
- Spacing: 2' apart
- Spread: seeds, cuttings, or layering
- Division/transplant tips: divide in spring or fall after plant becomes dormant



- Other: Roots should be kept cool, shaded and uniformly moist. Roots may be shaded with other perennials, annuals, or small shrubs

Maintenance

- Watering: weekly or more often in extreme heat or in containers; do not allow roots to dry out
- Fertilization: Once in early spring with all-purpose fertilizer, time-released variety (5-10-10), or organic mulch
- Pinching/deadheading: deadheading will help promote repeat blooming
- Annual maintenance: Some clematis bloom on old canes, some on new and old and some only on new. Improper pruning may impact the next season's flowering. If necessary, prune after flowers have ceased and remove only dead or yellowed stems, or in spring after new leaves have appeared and only remove dead canes.

Common Problems

Disease: wilt/stem rot, powdery mildew, leaf spots, rust

Insects: aphids, vine weevils, slugs/snails, scale, and earwigs

Resources

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=358485>

Questions or problems: What's wrong with my plant for information on garden pests and diseases:

<http://apps.extension.umn.edu/garden/diagnose/plant/>

Visit us at crowingmastergardeners.org, on Facebook @CWCMasterGardeners and on Instagram @cwcmastergardener.