

CARYOPTERIS 'First Choice'

Origin: Bred by English Plantsman Peter Catt of Liss Forest Nursery.

Species: *Caryopteris* × *clandonensis*

Protection Status: US Plant Patent #11,958; Canadian PBR Pending

Characteristics:

'**First Choice**' was bred for several outstanding characteristics: compact growth and longer blooming period. The deep inky-blue buds open into rich lilac-blue flower which bloom profusely on erect stems. '**First Choice**' has shorter internodes than is typical for the species and has dense, dark green foliage. '**First Choice**' has a different landscape effect than existing cultivars - dense and compact, instead of wispy and open and can be used in mixed borders and as a general landscape plant. Your first and best choice for a fine addition to the garden.

Hardiness: Zone 5 (marginal in zone 4?)

Bloom: 30"- 36" tall x 36" wide

Foliage: Starts blooming early compared to other cultivars with a very high bud count. Dark purple-blue flowers arise from attractive inky-blue buds.

Habit: Height of 30-36" and obtains a spread of 36" when mature.

Propagation: Semi-ripe cuttings. *License required for propagation.*

Culture: Well-drained soils in full sun. Drought tolerant.

