

Blue-grey hellebore

Helleborus lividus Also known as: **Purple hellebore**

Rating: 0.0 (0 votes)



This description is for **Blue-grey hellebore** (*Helleborus lividus*):

It may not be the most attractive of garden plants, but *Helleborus lividus* has qualities that endear it to plenty of gardeners. An evergreen perennial, it has thick red stems, at the end of which are three prominent, lance-shaped grey-green marbled leaves – earning it the common name, the blue-grey hellebore. A winter bloomer, its tiny five-petalled, bowl-shaped flower is a sickly shade of pale purple – earning it the alternative name, the purple hellebore. Though an evergreen, it is best to grow under glass where frosts threaten. Outside, it thrives in humus-rich, moist but well-drained alkaline soil and prefers shade to sun, so it is ideal as under-planting. Mulching may be required in winter.



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Plant	Environment	Usage
Known dangers? yes	Acidity Neutral Alkaline	Standard category Flowers & bulbs Perennials
Dangers: comments Avoid eating this plant, or you may have severe stomach upset. Its sap may irritate your skin.	Hardiness zone Z6-9	Grown for Attractive Flowers
Height [m] 0.3 - 0.5	Heat zone H9-6	Creative category For Beginners Colours For every season
Spread [m] 0.25	Winter temperatures [°C] -23 - -1	Garden type Cottage garden

Plant	Environment	Usage
Dominant flower colour Pink	Heat days 45 - 150	Garden spaces Flower beds Cut flowers Underplanting Borders
Flower Fragrance No, neutral please	Moisture well-drained but frequently watered poorly-drained	Gardening expertise beginner
Flowering seasons Mid winter Late winter Early spring Early winter	Soil type Clay chalky loams	Time to reach full size 2 to 5 years
Foliage in spring Blue-green	Sun requirements Partial shade	
Foliage in summer Blue-green	Exposure Sheltered	
Foliage in Autumn Blue-green		
Foliage in winter Blue-green		
Propagation methods seed division		
Growth habit Clump-forming		