

# Sisyrinchium angustifolium 'Lucerne'

*North American Native Cultivar*



*Sisyrinchium*  
(si-see-ring-kee-um) From the Greek name of a plant.

*angustifolium*  
(ang-gus-ti-fo-lee-um) meaning narrow leaved.



**Zones:** 5 – 8    **Flower Color:** Blue    **Height:** 8”    **Spacing:** 12”

'Lucerne' is a selection made by plantsman Robert Herman, formerly of White Flower Farm, while in Lucerne, Switzerland. Bright blue star-shaped flowers with a gold center appear from May until July. The flowers are located just above the Iris-like foliage on this charming native. At about 8”, the ¾” flowers look sweet as an edging or in the rock garden.

## About the Species:

**Common Name:** Narrow Leaf Blue-Eyed Grass

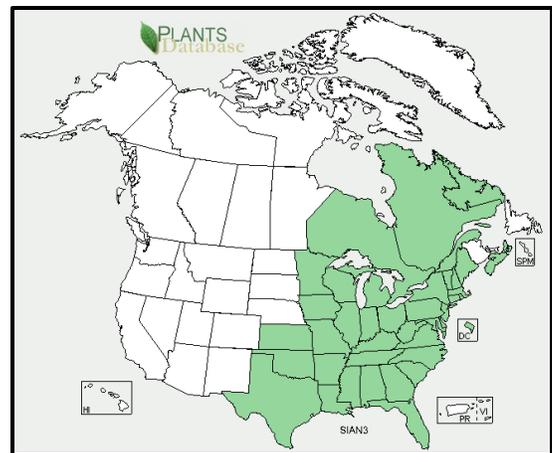
**Family:** Iridaceae

While tolerant of partial shade, Blue-eyed Grass prefers full sun and moist well-drained soil. The flowers are followed by the seed heads that appear to be tiny green balls hanging from the tips of the leaves. They will self-seed when happy. Seedlings are easily transplanted and will form a nice colony if left alone. Shear *Sisyrinchium* back after flowering to improve appearance and to avoid reseeding.

**Habitat:** This perennial herb is found along the edges of woods, in damp open woods, on slopes, along stream banks, in open grassy areas, meadows, and plain prairies, Jersey Pine Barrens, grassy openings, all along the eastern seacoast and half way across the United States.



Blue-eyed Grass - *Sisyrinchium angustifolium*



USDA Plants Database

**In the Garden:** Include Blue-Eyed Grass in the butterfly garden or naturalized area as it is an important nectar source for pollinators and provides good cover and food for small wildlife.

**It's not a grass and it does not have a blue eye.** *Sisyrinchium angustifolium* is in the Iris Family. Blue-eyed Grass has foliage with a grass like appearance, but upon closer inspection you can see that it is actually iris shaped. It has winged stems and the sky blue flowers have a yellow center.