



Royal Cape Plumbago

Plumbago capensis

05-25



<u>Hardiness</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Height</u>
Zones 8, 9, 12-24, H1, H2	Full sun or light shade	Not fussy about soil type, but requires good drainage	Little to regular watering	Blossom color varies from white to pure light blue to sky blue	To 6 feet tall Vine to 12 feet

Plumbagos appear in 12 species of evergreen and grow widely in all continents except Australia. The (botanical) flower measures about 1" across and blooms in the summer and deep into the autumn. In Europe the plumbago may be found in the wild; in Britain, on the other hand it is treated as an ornamental plant requiring a constant temperature of between 7 and 13°C throughout the winter months.

The discovery that, contrary to expert prediction, the *plumbago capensis* will survive all but the cruellest winters in London gardens led to the idea of using the plumbago as a symbol for a specialist Books and Arts enterprise based in the capital city: our British cultural climate is less resistant to what grows elsewhere in the wild than we often think, and the exotic plants more resilient than we imagine.