



Pin Cushion Flower

Scabiosa

05-30



<u>Hardiness</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Height</u>
Zones 1-24, H1	Full sun	Slightly acidic soil	Moderate to regular watering	Resemble pin in a pincushion they come in, lavender, pink, burgundy, and white	1½ - 3 feet tall

The small scabious is a short lived perennial that grows in a clump to 2 ft (0.6 m) tall and 3 ft (0.9 m) wide. It is much branched and has gray-green, rather hairy leaves. The basal leaves are lance shaped, 2-6 in (5.1-15.2 cm) long, and the stem leaves are dissected or twice dissected (the uppermost finely divided). Numerous lavender-blue flowerheads 1.5 in (3.8 cm) across are borne over an extended flowering period from summer until the first frost. These "heads" are actually composed of numerous tiny flowers. The cultivar 'Butterfly Blue' (which may in fact be a hybrid) is the most commonly encountered form of the plant. It is smaller, to 18 in (45.7 cm) high and across. 'Pink Mist' (a.k.a. 'Butterfly Pink') has pinkish blue flowers.

The species, *Scabiosa columbaria*, hails from the Mediterranean region of Europe, North Africa and western Asia where it grows in dry, sunny grasslands, rocky hillsides and open woods.