

# North Branch Nursery, Inc.

Pemberville, OH 419-287-4679

www.NorthBranchNursery.com



## Rain Dance Clematis

*Clematis 'Rain Dance'*

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 30 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 2b

Other Names: Bush Clematis

### Description:

An incredibly showy bush variety, featuring an abundance of rich indigo-blue flowers throughout the summer; non-climbing, but benefits from the support of obelisks, staking, or other plants; a great accent plant for borders, gardens, or patio containers

### Ornamental Features

Rain Dance Clematis features showy indigo star-shaped flowers with blue overtones and yellow anthers at the ends of the branches from late spring to late summer. It has green deciduous foliage. The glossy pointy compound leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

### Landscape Attributes

Rain Dance Clematis is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub. It is a Type 3 clematis; each spring it should be pruned back to within a few inches of the ground, as it flowers on new wood of the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Rain Dance Clematis is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Rain Dance Clematis flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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- Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

## **Planting & Growing**

Rain Dance Clematis will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in both summer and winter to conserve soil moisture and protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Rain Dance Clematis makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.