

# Common Name: Basil 'African Blue'

Botanical Name: *Ocimum kilimandscharicum* × *basilicum* 'Dark Opal'



- **Type:** Perennial, annual in Webster Groves area
- **Height:** 2 – 3 ft.
- **Width:** 1.5 – 2 ft.
- **Habit:** Shrub-like
- **Flower:** Dark purple spikes
- **Bloom Season:** All summer
- **Foliage:** Dark green to purple, fragrant
- **Fruit:** NA
- **Flavor:** Slightly camphor-like
- **Fragrance:** Camphor
- **Sun:** Full to partial shade
- **Soil:** Warm soil with a bit of compost
- **Water:** Average to slightly moist
- **Tolerant:** Drought, deer
- **Attracts:** Butterflies, bees
- **Uses:** Add flowers to sour cream, top pasta dish, float in ice trays & add to drinks. Makes a striking background or container plant.
- **Harvesting:** Frequent pruning, including removal of flower stalks, encourages new leaf growth, more branching & discourages flowering.

