

**October Skies Aster*****Symphotrichum oblongifolium* 'October Skies'**

Plant Height: 18 inches

Flower Height: 24 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: 

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Michaelmas Daisy



*October Skies Aster flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

**Description:**

A mounded, bushy variety, perfect for adding color to fall gardens; beautiful sky blue daisy-like flowers with yellow centers are featured on green, fragrant foliage; easy to grow, requiring little to no maintenance; drought tolerant once established

**Ornamental Features**

October Skies Aster has masses of beautiful sky blue daisy flowers with yellow eyes at the ends of the stems from late summer to early fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain dark green in colour throughout the season.

**Landscape Attributes**

October Skies Aster is a dense herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease

October Skies Aster is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

### **Planting & Growing**

October Skies Aster will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity extending to 24 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 24 inches. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.