MOUNTAIN BLUET

LIGHT

Give Centaurea montana full sun for sturdy growth and good flowering. This is perennial cornflower, including Amethyst Dream and Amethyst in Snow.

WATER

Water until established, then allow the soil surface to dry between soakings. Established plants tolerate dry periods; avoid continually saturated roots.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use ordinary, well-drained garden soil. Rich, wet ground is unnecessary. Plant at the original depth and leave room for clumps to expand.

FEEDING

Feed lightly, if at all, in reasonable garden soil. Heavy feeding can encourage loose growth; use a soil test before adding fertilizer.

SEASONAL CARE

Remove finished flowers to reduce seedlings and encourage possible later blooms. Divide crowded clumps every few years. Tidy dead stems after dormancy without damaging new basal growth.

HELPFUL TIPS

Plants can spread by runners as well as seed. Keep colonies within their allotted space and deadhead before seed ripens if spread is unwanted. Other knapweeds and annual cornflowers need separate identification; this guide is specific to Centaurea montana.