

# Summertime Blues Chaste Tree



## *Vitex angus castus x rotundifolia 'Helen Froehlich' PP31660*

- **Use:** This new hybrid vitex breaks all of the rules! Selected from a batch of vitex crosses made by former V.P. of Horticulture, Kris Jarantoski of the Chicago Botanic Garden, Summertime Blues has a rounded habit with exceptionally large individual flowers held on black stems. Just imagine a vitex with improved hardiness, that flowers most of the summer and can be used as a shrub...and you have Summertime Blues! Undisputedly an improved selection, it offers multi-season interest for gardens from California to Chicago and even in the deep south. Extreme drought tolerance, a more manageable size, and sterile flowers make the perfect combination for this work horse, easy-to-care-for shrub.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Full sun– part sun. Drought tolerant once established. Needs at least 4 hours afternoon sun.
- **Growth:** Fast grower to 8-10 feet tall and 5' wide in the South. Note: This plant has produced no viable seed for the past 15 years and therefore should not have the invasive tendencies of Vitex rotundifolia, which is one of its parents.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 5-9, Large shrub/ small tree
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Silvery- blue foliage has the smell of chocolate when crushed.
- **Flower:** Large lavender-purple flower spikes are held on black stems through most of the summer on this exciting new hybrid.



**Low maintenance and  
drought tolerant!**

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