

Nemophila menziesii

COMMON NAME

Baby Blue-eyes; Penny Black

SYNONYMS

Sometimes placed in F. Boraginaceae subfamily Hydrophylloideae

FAMILY

Hydrophyllaceae

AUTHORITY

Nemophila menziesii Hook. & Arn.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Trailing annual herb, sometimes slightly woody at base. Flowers ca 4 cm diameter, mostly blue with white centre, but other colours in cultivation include 'Penny Black' with purple-black petals with narrow white margins; and var. *atomaria* with white to pale lilac flowers with scattered darker speckles (= 'Snow Storm') or a larger purple spot on outer rim of each petal. Plants soft with deeply incised-to-pinnate leaves.

HABITAT

Drought tolerant. Self-sows freely in gardens once established and spreads to gravel paths and driveways.

FLOWER COLOURS

Black, Blue, Purple, White

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Seed

YEAR NATURALISED

2011

ORIGIN

California

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/nemophila-menziesii/>

