

VALE'S GREENHOUSE



Quality Plants For The Chinook Zone

301 – 3rd St. N.W., Black Diamond, Alberta

933-4814

PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR 2008

GERANIUM x 'ROZANNE'



Every year the Perennial Plant Association sends each member a ballot to select a Perennial Plant of the Year. These plants do not tend to be new introductions to the garden world, but plants that have been tried and thus proven worthy for nomination. After the selection, the plant is then promoted all across Canada and continental U.S.A. Here, in the Black Diamond and Calgary area, there have been years that the plant chosen has not been hardy to our Agricultural Zone of 2 or 3.

Geranium x 'Rozanne' has large single violet-blue flowers with white centres, appearing from June until the first frosts. A combination of, a long flowering period and vigorous, yet compact habit makes 'Rozanne' perfect for the plant of the year 2008. This hardy geranium does well in USDA Zone 2 and grows to a high of 40 cm, 16 inches or 60 cm 24 inches wide.

In 1988 in the retirement garden of Donald and Rozanne Waterer the two plants of *Geranium himalayense* and *Geranium wallichianum* 'Buxton's Variety' cross pollinated. When the seed was collected off of these plants by Rozanne she was unaware of the potential of just one of those seedlings.

The unique young seedling was planted out in 1989 and soon exhibited larger leaves, more vigorous growth and flowers which although of a similar appearance to 'Buxton's Variety' were deeper blue and twice as large.

This plant is extremely hardy in zone 2 and is easily propagated from root divisions. It grows in many types of soil conditions from sandy to heavy clay. An excellent garden performer, this plant loves a sunny location, with hundreds of blooms that will not wilt in the heat. It is a truly versatile plant that when planted in filtered light the colour of each flower will deepen to a rich blue and it will remain short and compact.



Geranium Rozanne



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