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<b>SPECIES</b>	Dianella tasmanica
<b>COMMON NAME</b>	Tasman Flax Lily, Flax Lily, Blueberry Flax Lily
<b>ORIGIN</b>	Tasmania, Australia
<b>DESIGN USE</b>	Groundcover, container plant



#### HEIGHT

1m

#### SPREAD

0.3m

#### HABIT

Herbaceous rhizomatous plants grow 15" to 24" (36") tall and spread slowly to 24" or more in diameter; the strap-like leaves arise in flattened sprays from the rhizomes terminating in spring with flower stalks that are held above the foliage; cane-like stems with shorter leaves on the terminal portions are reported in the literature, but do not appear to be common in the forms found in the Texas nursery trade; the overall texture is medium to mildly coarse.

#### FORM

The leaves grow from underground thick stems that grow laterally and spread to form clumps or colonies. Its leathery strap-like blades are often curved.

#### FLOWERS

Individual small, ½" to ¾" diameter, perfect individual flowers are borne on loose open well branched panicles above the foliage in mid-spring; various authorities report that the panicles can reach 5' in height, but they are much smaller, 1' to 2', than this in our region; the three petals and three sepals are nearly indistinguishable forming six tepals; six prominent yellow to yellow-brown stamens are present.

#### FLOWERING PERIOD

Spring to summer

#### FRUIT

The electric steel blue ½" to ¾" long oblong-ovoid berry-like fruit sometimes are formed in loose panicles in summer above the foliage; individual fruit are olive-shaped with black seeds

#### CLIMATIC TOLERANCES

Once established, *Dianella tasmanica* needs little or no work or irrigation as it is drought and frost tolerant. It does prefer some shade but can grow in heavy shade.

#### HORTICULTURE

Flax lily is easy-to-grow and prefers partial sun or partial shade and average soil with good drainage. However, it will tolerate full sun if well watered. This lily will withstand some frost and is drought tolerant once established, though it looks best if watered during dry spells.

#### REFERENCES

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/>

<http://www.cradocnursery.com.au/plants/Dianella-tasmanica.shtml>

[http://zipcodezoo.com/Plants/D/Dianella\\_tasmanica\\_var.\\_variegata/](http://zipcodezoo.com/Plants/D/Dianella_tasmanica_var._variegata/)

<http://www.learn2grow.com/plants/dianella-tasmanica/>

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