

## To Be Insert As An Additional Taxa Under *Chrysanthemum x morifolium* In *Landscape Plants For Texas And Environs, Third Edition*:

***Arctotis venusta*** N.T. Norlindh

**Blue-Eyed African Daisy**

(*Arctotis grandis*, *Arctotis stoechadifolia*)

- C Also known as African Daisy or Arctotis; this South African native is valued for its 20 to 30 diameter composite flowers that are held above the foliage; the violet to bluish ray flowers contrast nicely with the creamy white disk flowers; plants tend to be floppy growers, potentially reaching 2' to 3' in height under the best conditions, but plants are seldom more than 1' to 1½' tall in our landscapes; the pubescent leaves are 2" to 4" long, coarsely toothed, and gray-green in color.
- C This species is a spring transition plant for us in Texas, although it is a USDA zone 9 to 10 herbaceous perennial in milder climates with cooler night temperatures; plants decline as the heat of summer approaches; suitable for somewhat drier spots than most spring transition annuals; avoid poorly drained soils; suitable for use as a seasonal cut flower.
- C Some of the cultivars available in the trade are hybrids of this species with *Venidium fastuosa* Jacq., the Cape Daisy, sold under the name *Arctotis x hybrida* Hort. (sometimes classified as *X Venidioarctotis* depending upon the authority's treatment of *Venidium* as a separate genus or a subset of *Arctotis*).

References: Bennett and Forsyth, 1998; Clausen, 1995; Hogue, 1999; Marston, 1993; Still, 1996; Sutton, 2001.

Copyrighted 2002 with all rights reserved by Michael A. Arnold for future inclusion in *Landscape Plants For Texas And Environs, Third Edition*.