Bugleweed

*Ajuga reptans*

This ground-hugging groundcover produces a profusion of dark green to bronze or purple-colored leaves in a flat rosette, spreading fairly quickly by runners or stolons. Six inch tall spikes of small blue flowers are produced in spring to early summer and are especially attractive when plants are massed together. Plant on 6 to 12 inch centers for quick establishment of a thick ground cover. There are selections with foliage variegated in green, white, red, yellow, and pink. Growing best in shady locations, bugleweed will tolerate full sun as long as it can be provided with moist, but not soggy, fertile soil.

**Type:** evergreen herbaceous ground

**USDA hardiness zones:** 4 through 10a

**Uses:** mass planting; container or above-ground planter; ground cover; edging

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Height:** 6 inches  
**Spread:** 6 to 12 inches

**Plant spacing:** 6 to 12 inches

**Light requirement:** full sun to shade; prefers part shade

**Soil tolerances:** slightly acid to slightly alkaline; clay; sand; silt; loam

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Soil salt tolerance:** poor

**Invasive potential:** aggressive, spreading plant

**Pest resistance:** very sensitive to pests and diseases which can affect plant health or aesthetics

**Photo:** NC State U Extension

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