

Dianella tasmanica 'Variegated' **White Stripes**

by **RANDY A. NATALINO**

VARIEGATED dianella, *Dianella tasmanica* 'Variegated,' is an amazing plant. Rarely will you find a plant that lends itself to as broad a range of applications as does variegated dianella.



Also known as Blueberry Flax Lily, variegated dianella is a phormium cousin. Both originate from New Zealand. However, where phormiums can be difficult to grow, expensive and limited in application, variegated dianella can be used in a broad range of applications.

Variegated dianella is already being used as a landscape plant, sun or shade, throughout Florida. It thrives in coastal plantings from California through Washington, and Virginia around through the Gulf Coast. Variegated dianella can be used as indoor foliage everywhere, and is an incredible centerpiece plant for northern mixed containers. It is salt tolerant, heat and humidity tolerant, Zone 7 to 10 hardy



and surprisingly adaptable to lower light situations. In addition, it grows significantly faster than comparably sized phormiums with many fewer cultural problems.

At maturity, variegated dianella stands about 2 feet tall with graceful, draping leaves and a clean white/green color contrast. There are no reported serious pest problems or growing difficulties. Variegated dianella produces small blue flowers in the summer and suckers freely at the base for a desirable,

multiple-plant appearance. Young plant divisions are regularly available from ForemostCo Inc.

Use variegated dianella for landscape, coastal plantings, foliage and in upscale planters, but by all means, use variegated dianella to great effect in all your applications! **GG**

About the author: Randy A. Natalino is vice president of marketing at ForemostCo, Inc., 8457 NW 66 Street, Miami, FL, 33166; phone 800-421-8986; fax 800-426-1362; e-mail sales@foremostco.com. Visit the company's Web site at www.foremostco.com.

