



Photo by Robert Gessing

## Bird's Foot Violet

*Viola pedata*

### Growing Information

- Sunlight: Full sun to partial, filtered shade
- Soils: Dry, acidic, sandy or gravelly soils. Needs good drainage.
- Bloom Time: April-June
- Size: 4-10 inches high

Beautiful lilac-colored flowers, larger than most violets – more like a pansy. A low, clumping perennial, easily identified by its finely divided bird's foot-like leaves. Does well in poor upland soils, prefers not to compete with other plants. Great for rock gardens.

### Garden Companions

Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*); Wavy Hairgrass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*); Purple Lovegrass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*); New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*); Lowbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*)

### Nature Benefits

- Provides nectar for native bees and butterflies.
- Larval host for the Regal Fritillary (*Speyeria idalia*)

### Native Habitat

Rocky, open woods; sandy prairies and pine barrens