

Echeveria 'GILVA' (Walther) Van Keppel.

Parentage: *E. agavoides* x *E. elegans*.

Rosettes regular, dense, 15 to 20cm in diameter, older plants offsetting freely from the base or from between the leaves. They are a yellowish green, translucent on the edges, often strongly flushed reddish on both sides of the leaves in ~~spring~~ late winter early spring, the epidermis is crystalline not at all glaucous. Flowers, the inflorescence is a single cincinnus with 12 or more, pinkish red, yellow tipped flowers, flowers from March on.

Origin. First recorded by Walther in the Cactus & Succulent Journal of America. Vol 7. P.61, in 1935, as a species of unknown origin. In 1968 Van Keppel published the results of his experimenting to determine the garden origin of *E. Gilva* see N.C. & S.S. Journal Vol 23/1. P.12. 1968.

Remarks. There are several clones of this hybrid in cultivation including interesting cristate forms. Its value as an ornamental plant stems from its splendid leaf colouring in winter, especially under dry, cool, conditions.

Echeveria 'GILVA' cv 'BLUE SURPRISE.' Van Keppel.

This blue cultivar which is derived as a somatic mutant of the cv *GILVA* was found by Van Keppel in 1954 growing alongside *E. Gilva*. It is a very useful ornamental foliage plant with its symmetrical rosettes and pinky blue colouring in winter. It can be propagated quite easily by leaf cuttings.