Centratherum intermedium Brazilian Buttonflower
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Introduction
Brazilian buttonflower, a native of Brazil, is an herbaceous perennial that may attain a height of 6 to 18 inches. The olive to light green foliage of the Brazilian buttonflower has a fine texture and creates a soft texture along with the long-lasting, fluffy, button-like flowers appearing on the plant in the warm months. These 1-inch-wide flowers are a beautiful lavender-pink color.

General Information
Scientific name: Centratherum intermedium
Pronunciation: sen-TRATH-ur-um in-tur-MEE-dee-um
Common name(s): Brazilian buttonflower
Family: Unknown
Plant type: perennial; herbaceous
USDA hardiness zones: 9 through 11 (Fig. 1)

Description
Height: .5 to 1 feet
Spread: 3 to 4 feet
Plant habit: spreading
Plant density: dense
Growth rate: fast
Texture: fine

Foliage
Leaf arrangement: alternate
Leaf type: simple
Leaf margin: serrate
Leaf shape: elliptic (oval)
Leaf venation: pinnate
Leaf type and persistence: deciduous
Leaf blade length: less than 2 inches
Leaf color: green
Fall color: no fall color change
Fall characteristic: not showy

Flower
Flower color: lavender; pink

Planting month for zone 9: year round
Planting month for zone 10 and 11: year round
Origin: not native to North America
Uses: ground cover; edging; cascading down a wall
Availability: somewhat available, may have to go out of the region to find the plant

Figure 1. No pests or disease are of major concern.
**Flower characteristic:** summer flowering; fall flowering

**Fruit**
- **Fruit shape:** no fruit
- **Fruit length:** no fruit
- **Fruit cover:** no fruit
- **Fruit color:** not applicable
- **Fruit characteristic:** inconspicuous and not showy

**Trunk and Branches**
- **Trunk/bark/branches:** not applicable
- **Current year stem/twig color:** reddish
- **Current year stem/twig thickness:** thin

**Culture**
- **Light requirement:** plant grows in full sun
- **Soil tolerances:** acidic; sand; loam; clay
- **Soil salt tolerances:** unknown
- **Plant spacing:** 36 to 60 inches

**Other**
- **Roots:** not applicable
- **Winter interest:** no special winter interest
- **Outstanding plant:** not particularly outstanding
- **Invasive potential:** may self-seed each year
- **Pest resistance:** long-term health usually not affected by pests

**Use and Management**
The Brazilian buttonflower is generally used as a ground cover and is lovely when massed. It is well suited for a rock garden.

The Brazilian buttonflower prefers a well-drained soil and a full sun to partial shade position in the landscape. It is drought tolerant but is killed if frozen.

Propagate by cuttings. It will readily reseed itself.

**Pests and Diseases**
No pests or diseases are of major concern.