



Featherhead

Phyllica pubescens

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Description:

This attractive bush is densely covered with hairy leaves and these hairs seem to gather sunlight and make it glow; flowers are white with long brownish tips and have a faint cinnamon scent; popular in flower arrangements and dries well

Ornamental Features

Featherhead features bold lightly-scented bracted white flowers with gold overtones held atop the branches from mid to late fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has attractive green evergreen foliage which emerges chartreuse in spring. The fuzzy needles are highly ornamental and remain green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Featherhead is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a mounded form. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which can make it a great accent feature on this basis alone.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Featherhead is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Featherhead flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Featherhead in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Featherhead will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It has a low canopy, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America.

Featherhead makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.