



## Purple Tails Germander

*Teucrium hyrcanicum* 'Purple Tails'

Plant Height: 18 inches

Flower Height: 24 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Caucasian Germander, Iranian Wood Sage

### Description:

A very easy to grow, bushy variety, producing attractive clumps of aromatic, sage-like green foliage; long, elegant spikes of reddish-purple blooms from summer to fall; a beautiful, textural plant that is drought and heat tolerant

### Ornamental Features

Purple Tails Germander features showy spikes of fuchsia flowers rising above the foliage from early summer to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive fragrant pointy leaves remain green in color with curious grayish green undersides throughout the season.

### Landscape Attributes

Purple Tails Germander is an herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cut back to the ground in late winter before active growth resumes. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Purple Tails Germander is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Purple Tails Germander flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Purple Tails Germander in bloom*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Herb Gardens
- Container Planting

### **Planting & Growing**

Purple Tails Germander will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity extending to 24 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 12 inches. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Purple Tails Germander is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.