Lakeshore Garden Centres

Orchid Annie Butterfly Bush

4102 - 11th St. West
P.O. Box 2A RR3
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Orchid Annie Butterfly Bush

Buddleia 'Orchid Annie'



Orchid Annie Butterfly Bush flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 inches

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Summer Lilac

Group/Class: Humdinger Series

Description:

A compact garden plant with showy orchid purple flowers in summer when little else blooms; attracts butterflies; may treat as a perennial and cut it back to the ground each spring as it regrows vigorously and blooms on new wood



Orchid Annie Butterfly Bush in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Orchid Annie Butterfly Bush features showy panicles of fragrant purple flowers with lilac purple overtones and orange eyes at the ends of the branches from mid summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain grayish green in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Orchid Annie Butterfly Bush is an open multi-stemmed perennial with a more or less rounded form. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

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, butterflies and hummingbirds 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.

Orchid Annie Butterfly Bush is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

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Planting & Growing

Orchid Annie Butterfly Bush will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to be leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and should be underplanted with lower-growing perennials. Although it is technically a woody plant, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as a perennial in our climate if planted outdoors over the winter, usually regrowing from its base (crown) the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under typical garden conditions. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Orchid Annie Butterfly Bush 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. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.

This plant is not reliably hardy in our region, and certain restrictions may apply; contact the store for more information.