Butterfly Bush, Miss Molly

Buddleia 'Miss Molly'

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Summer Lilac

Description:

A valuable compact garden plant with spectacular hot pink and red spikes of flowers in summer; 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

Ornamental Features

Butterfly Bush, Miss Molly features showy panicles of fragrant hot pink flowers at the ends of the branches from mid summer to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has grayish green deciduous foliage. The fuzzy narrow leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Butterfly Bush, Miss Molly is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. 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.



Butterfly Bush, Miss Molly flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Butterfly Bush, Miss Molly in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Butterfly Bush, Miss Molly is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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



Butterfly Bush, Miss Molly flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Butterfly Bush, Miss Molly will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub 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. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. 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.

Butterfly Bush, Miss Molly 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.