Lilac, Sensation

Syringa vulgaris 'Sensation'

Height: 12 feet

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 2a

Other Names: Common Lilac

Group/Class: French Hybrid Lilac

Description:

This highly distinctive hybrid has fragrant panicles of rich purple flowers with each individual petal trimmed in white; upright, multi-stemmed habit, tends to sucker, ideal for screening; full sun and well-drained soil, allow room for air movement

Ornamental Features

Lilac, Sensation features showy panicles of fragrant purple flowers with white edges rising above the foliage in mid spring. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has bluish-green deciduous foliage. The heart-shaped leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Lilac, Sensation is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

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 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;



Lilac, Sensation flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Lilac, Sensation in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Suckering

Lilac, Sensation is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use



Lilac, Sensation flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Lilac, Sensation will grow to be about 12 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, 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 30 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. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Special Attributes

Prune within 2 weeks after blooming is done, so you will get flowers next year.