Smokebush, Royal Purple

Cotinus coggygria 'Royal Purple'

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Smoketree

Description:

One of the most popular accent plants featuring deep maroon foliage all summer long, turning to red in fall; flowers and reddish inflorescences produce a fuzzy, smoky appearance throughout summer, hence the name. Can be grown as a bush or small tree.

Ornamental Features

Smokebush, Royal Purple features airy panicles of yellow flowers with fuchsia stalks at the ends of the branches from early to late summer. It has attractive deep purple deciduous foliage. The round leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding brick red in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

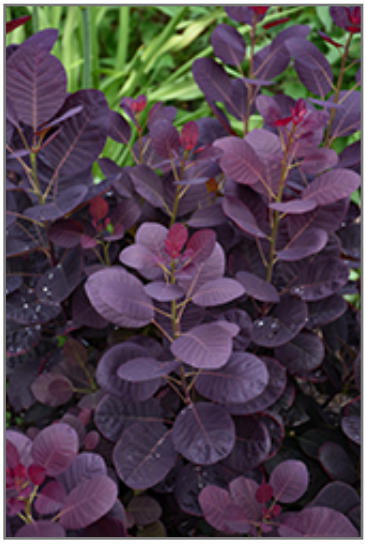
Smokebush, Royal Purple is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Smokebush, Royal Purple is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Smokebush, Royal Purple flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Smokebush, Royal Purple foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use



Smokebush, Royal Purple in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Smokebush, Royal Purple will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot 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 40 years or more.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. 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.

Clean up Rating (1-5) 1=least effort 5=most effort

Clean Up Rating (2): Smoke Trees produce the fuzzy smoke flowers with a tiny kidney shaped seed hidden within. Clean up by blowing or raking the debris onto the lawn and mow or bag.