James MacFarlane Lilac

Syringa x prestoniae 'James MacFarlane'



James MacFarlane Lilac flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 10 feet

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 2

Other Names: James McFarlane

Group/Class: Preston Lilac

Description:

A very attractive and hardy tall accent shrub with upright panicles of lightly fragrant pink flowers in late spring; multi-stemmed and upright, forms a large ball; a superb specimen plant; full sun and well-drained soil; non-suckering

Ornamental Features

James MacFarlane Lilac features showy panicles of lightly-scented hot pink flowers rising above the foliage in late spring. It has forest green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves turn buttery yellow in fall.

Landscape Attributes

James MacFarlane Lilac 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 butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

James MacFarlane Lilac is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

James MacFarlane Lilac will grow to be about 10 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 3 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 should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.