Montrose Purple Chaste Tree

Vitex agnus-castus 'Montrose Purple'



Montrose Purple Chaste Tree flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Monk's Pepper Tree

Description:

An uncommon garden shrub with airy spikes of lovely purple flowers throughout summer, distinctive dark green palmate leaves with gray-green undersides; can be treated like a perennial and cut back each spring; flowers on new wood and regrows vigorously

Ornamental Features

Montrose Purple Chaste Tree has panicles of lightly-scented purple flowers rising above the foliage from late spring to early fall. It has grayish green foliage with silver undersides. The fragrant palmate leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.



Montrose Purple Chaste Tree in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Montrose Purple Chaste Tree is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Montrose Purple Chaste Tree is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Montrose Purple Chaste Tree will grow to be about 18 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 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 fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. 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, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.