Purple Trailing Lantana

Lantana sellowiana



Purple Trailing Lantana flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: syn. L. montevidensis; Trailing Lantana

Description:

A popular groundcover, prized for its masses of purple blooms; perfect for cascading over garden walls or use in containers and hanging baskets

Ornamental Features

Purple Trailing Lantana features showy cymes of lightly-scented purple flowers at the ends of the branches from late spring to mid fall. It has green evergreen foliage. The fuzzy pointy leaves remain green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Purple Trailing Lantana is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a ground-hugging 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 is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies 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.

Purple Trailing Lantana is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

Planting & Growing

Purple Trailing Lantana will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. It has a low canopy. It grows at a fast 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 is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. 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 species is not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets. It can be propagated by cuttings.

Purple Trailing Lantana makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. 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.