Nodding Lilac

Syringa reflexa



Nodding Lilac flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 3

Other Names: Syringa komarowii subsp. reflexa, Pendulous Lilac

Description:

A large multi-stemmed shrub prized for its showy nodding panicles of purple-pink flowers in late spring and early summer; upright and bushy, good towards the back of the shrub border; needs full sun and well-drained soil

Ornamental Features

Nodding Lilac features showy panicles of fragrant violet flowers with pink overtones hanging below the branches from late spring to early summer, which emerge from distinctive hot pink flower buds. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Nodding 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.

Nodding Lilac is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Nodding Lilac will grow to be about 12 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 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 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 species is not originally from North America.