Montara California Sagebrush

Artemisia californica 'Montara'



Montara California Sagebrush
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Coastal Sagebrush, Sage Brush

Description:

A highly aromatic groundcover variety, that branches from the base, and spreads out from there, up to 6 feet; fine, gray-green foliage for a great landscape texture; does best in poor, dry soils; an ideal plant for conditions where little else will grow

Ornamental Features

Montara California Sagebrush has attractive grayish green foliage with hints of silver on a plant with a spreading habit of growth. The small fragrant threadlike leaves are highly ornamental but do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Montara California Sagebrush is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a ground-hugging habit of growth. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which should be used to full effect.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading
- Self-Seeding

Montara California Sagebrush is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Montara California Sagebrush will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in 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 particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for clay, alkaline soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.