Summertime Blue Emu Bush

Eremophila 'Summertime Blue'

Height: 7 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Fuchsia Bush

Description:

This Australian native shrub is very drought tolerant once established, great for water conservation gardens; lilac-violet blooms along the branches primarily in summer, accenting the narrow, light green foliage; an interesting landscape specimen



Summertime Blue Emu Bush flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Summertime Blue Emu Bush
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Summertime Blue Emu Bush is draped in stunning lilac purple tubular flowers with violet overtones, white throats and deep purple spots along the branches from early summer to early fall, which emerge from distinctive deep purple flower buds. It has attractive light green foliage with hints of chartreuse. The small narrow leaves are highly ornamental and remain light green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Summertime Blue Emu Bush is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which can make it a great accent feature on this basis alone.

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 hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Summertime Blue Emu Bush is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting



Summertime Blue Emu Bush flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Summertime Blue Emu Bush will grow to be about 7 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

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 xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Summertime Blue Emu Bush makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. 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.