Sarasota Duranta

Duranta erecta 'Sarasota'

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 9

Other Names: Golden Dew Drop, Pigeon Berry, syn. Duranta repens

Description:

A beautiful large shrub or small tree producing clusters of showy lavender- royal blue flowers all year, followed by orange fruit; can be maintained as a small accent tree; an interesting, colorful addition to the landscape

Ornamental Features

Sarasota Duranta features showy clusters of lavender trumpet-shaped flowers with royal blue stripes at the ends of the branches from early winter to late fall. It features an abundance of magnificent orange berries from mid summer to early winter. It has dark green evergreen foliage. The pointy leaves remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Sarasota Duranta is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading 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 shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting birds, bees and butterflies to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spiny



Sarasota Duranta flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Sarasota Duranta fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Sarasota Duranta is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting



Sarasota Duranta
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Sarasota Duranta will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 feet. It has a low canopy 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 40 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. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species, 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.

Sarasota Duranta makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Its large size and upright habit of growth lend it for use as a solitary accent, or in a composition surrounded by smaller plants around the base 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.