China Snow Pekin Lilac

Syringa pekinensis 'China Snow'

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Tree Lilac

Description:

Luxurious, showy plumes of large creamy white flowers in late spring early summer with a wonderful fragrance; bark is coppery, shiny, and peeling; drought tolerant but will not tolerate poor drainage



China Snow Pekin Lilac bark
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



China Snow Pekin Lilac in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

China Snow Pekin Lilac features showy plumes of fragrant creamy white flowers rising above the foliage from late spring to early summer. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color. The peeling coppery-bronze bark is extremely showy and adds significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

China Snow Pekin Lilac is a multi-stemmed deciduous tree 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 is a relatively low maintenance tree, 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, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

China Snow Pekin Lilac is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

China Snow Pekin Lilac will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 3 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 50 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. 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 is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.



China Snow Pekin Lilac
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder