Butterfly Bush
Buddleia davidii ‘Nanho Purple’

Plant Description:

‘Nanho Purple’ is a cultivar of Buddleia, which features lavender-purple, cone-shaped clusters of flowers on a compact plant. This deciduous shrub takes on an arching, spreading habit and it’s showy, fragrant flowers (up to 6 inches long) are very attractive to butterflies, as the common name suggests.

Mature Size: 3-5 feet
Growth Rate: Fast
Plant Habit: Spreading

Ornamental Characteristics & Uses:

Foliage Color: Gray-Green
Flower Color: Lavender – Purple
Bloom Time: Summer
Attracts Wildlife: Attracts Butterflies
Uses: Landscapes, Cut Flower
Growing Requirements:

Cold Hardiness Zone(s): 5 – 9

Exposure: Full Sun

Water Needs: Normal

Soil Tolerances: Moderately Drought Tolerant; Requires Well-Drained Soils

Soil pH: Slightly Acidic to Slightly Alkaline

Maintenance: Easy/Low

General Care & Growing Tips:

These plants need full sun to ensure adequate flowering, and well-drained soils to prevent root rot. Like most plants, they benefit from a 2- to 3-inch layer of organic mulch. Light applications of fertilizer may also prove beneficial. Deadheading spent flowers will keep plants looking neat and tidy and lengthen the bloom period. Plants will be killed to the ground by freezing temperatures, but pruning back dead limbs during winter can increase cold damage. Instead, wait to prune until just as the new growth begins to emerge in spring.

Common Pests:

Generally a pest-free plant, although nematodes can be a problem. Pesticide use on this plant should be avoided, particularly when in bloom because of the wide variety of beneficial insects attracted to the flowers.


Photo Credit: Alicia Lamborn