Imperial Gem Lavender

Lavandula angustifolia 'Imperial Gem'

Plant Height: 15 inches

Flower Height: 24 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: English Lavender, Common Lavender

Description:

A nicely compact, bushy selection featuring stunning rich purple, long lasting blooms from early to late summer; dense foliage is silvery-green and very aromatic; a perfect choice for edging or massing in the garden



Imperial Gem Lavender flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Imperial Gem Lavender has masses of beautiful spikes of fragrant lavender flowers with purple overtones rising above the foliage from early to late summer, which emerge from distinctive deep purple flower buds, and which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has attractive grayish green foliage with hints of silver. The fragrant needles are highly ornamental and turn coppery-bronze in the fall, which persists throughout the winter.



Imperial Gem Lavender flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Imperial Gem Lavender is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a mounded form. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, 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. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Imperial Gem Lavender is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Imperial Gem Lavender flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Imperial Gem Lavender will grow to be about 15 inches tall at maturity extending to 24 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. 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 not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for 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 selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Imperial Gem Lavender makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. 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.