Betsy Ross Lilac

Syringa 'Betsy Ross'



Betsy Ross Lilac flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 10 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Description:

An early-spring blooming lilac from the US National Arboretum with large panicles of intensely fragrant white flowers; upright, multi-stemmed habit, limited suckering, ideal for screening; full sun and well-drained soil, relatively resistant to mildew

Ornamental Features

Betsy Ross Lilac is draped in stunning panicles of fragrant white flowers rising above the foliage in early spring. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The heart-shaped leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.



Betsy Ross Lilac in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Betsy Ross Lilac is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

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 butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading
- Insects

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Betsy Ross Lilac is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Betsy Ross Lilac will grow to be about 10 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 medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.



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