



Chinese Indigo

Indigofera decora

Height: 30 inches

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Summer Wisteria

Description:

Gracefully arching racemes of white and rose-pink pea-shaped flowers make a showy display in the middle of summer; compound foliage adds a nice texture to the landscape; will die back to the ground in colder climates, but will resprout from the roots

Ornamental Features

Chinese Indigo features showy racemes of white pea-like flowers with rose overtones hanging below the branches from early to late summer. It has emerald green deciduous foliage. The oval compound leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Chinese Indigo is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a shapely form and gracefully arching branches. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Chinese Indigo is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use



Chinese Indigo flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Chinese Indigo in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Planting & Growing

Chinese Indigo will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. 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 quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided. This species is not originally from North America.