Summertime Blues™ Chaste Tree

Vitex 'Helen Froehlich'



Summertime Blues Chaste Tree flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Description:

An intermediate sized selection featuring fragrant, lavender-purple flower spikes on black stems in late summer; dark green foliage is refined and fragrant; rounded, upright habit tends to keep its density; very adaptable and salt tolerant

Ornamental Features

Summertime Blues Chaste Tree has panicles of fragrant lavender flowers with purple overtones rising above the foliage from late summer to early fall. It has green deciduous foliage. The fragrant palmate leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color. The smooth gray bark and black branches add an interesting dimension to the landscape.



Summertime Blues Chaste Tree in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Summertime Blues Chaste Tree is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Summertime Blues Chaste Tree is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

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Planting & Growing

Summertime Blues Chaste Tree will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.