

## Ramm Botanicals plant information

# Hardenbergia



We bred Purple Spray as a 'shrubby climber' because, typically, Hardenbergia is a wandering plant. We wanted an upright form that remains shrub-like unless you give the plant something to climb onto.



Purple Spray covers itself in gorgeous clusters of purple, pea-like flowers in late winter/early spring. It integrates well with other native shrubs, is easy to care for and is drought and frost tolerant.

Our late 2013 release, Sea of Purple, is a fresh take on a ground cover form. Not only is it a quick grower, it's dense plant habit makes it hard for weeds and it spreads up to 2 metres. In flower, you'll see how it got its name.

One of the interesting things about Hardenbergia is that they fix their own nitrogen. This means they have learnt the art of taking nitrogen from the air and converting it for their biological needs.

### Planting

All natives love free-draining soil however Hardenbergia will tolerate a wide range of soils from sandy to loam or even clay. Try Purple Spray as either a stand-alone garden plant or plant it at 1m intervals along fences to great effect. Use Sea of Purple wherever you want to cover large areas quickly. Plant either in full sun or part shade position. Mulching recommended.

### Watering

Will do best in moist soil however Purple Spray will normally perform quite well on natural rainfall without any supplementary watering. Water in extended dry periods.

### Fertiliser

Hardenbergia needs a low-phosphorus, native plant fertiliser. Some Aussie plants growing in poor soils have become good at taking up the small amounts of phosphorus in the soil. If you give them a big dose of phosphorus, you could kill the plant, hence use a native plant food.



### Pruning

Trim to shape after flowering if the plant needs tidying up.

### Pests and Diseases

No major issues here. Over-watering may cause fungal problems, so use of a fungicide is helpful. Remove any badly affected stems and rake up dropped leaves and dispose of them. The 'usual suspects', aphids, bugs and caterpillars can affect the plant - if you see a problem, see your specialist plant retailer for advice on the right product.



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