

Ramm Botanicals plant information

Hardenbergia Purple Spray



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.

One of the interesting things about Hardenbergia is that they fix their own nitrogen. Now it's understandable if you don't know this, but, some plants have learnt the art of taking nitrogen from the air and converting it for their biological needs. When you think that air is made up of 80% nitrogen, that's a pretty cool feature to have! Nitrogen fixation occurs naturally in the air by means of lightning.

Planting

All natives love free-draining soil however Purple Spray will tolerate a wide range of soils from sandy to loam or even clay. Try it as either a stand-alone garden plant, or plant it at one metre intervals along fences to great effect. Plant 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

Purple Spray 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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