## Monarch Glass Slippers Butterfly Bush





have certainly earned their place Just when we need a breath of resh air in the late summer heat, they happliy burst into bloom. At a time when many other plants are already spent. buddlelas are just beginning their show. Their passive coloring and texture makes a wonderful backdrop for perennials, and you'll love the butterfiles, bees, and hummingbirds that flock to their honev-scented blossoms.





## Buddleia davidii ' Monarch Queen of Hearts'

- <u>Use:</u> The vibrant magenta red flowers of this new selection are sure to capture the hearts of gardeners everywhere, and the butterflies and hummingbirds will love them too! Large 7-9" long panicles are produced from the top of the plant to the bottom, pointing upward and outward on all sides in late summer and early fall. Smaller secondary flowers extend the show. In addition to its heavy flower production, this plant is also quite short and compact, forming a full, rounded clump that is just a bit wider than it is tall. It is the perfect plant for adding a hot splash of color to the landscape late in the season.
- Exposure/Soil: Cold, wet winters can be really hard on buddleia, so here are a few tips to help your buddleia thrive in your garden: 1. Make sure the soil is well-drained. 2. Full sun. That's at least 6 hours. No cheating. 3. Wait until it leafs out in spring before pruning. In some years you may have to prune it back to the ground. After milder winters, maybe not so much. Avoid fall pruning.
- <u>Growth</u>: Keeps its composure as it ages, growing just 2.5-3' tall and 3.5-4' wide in two
  years.
- Hardiness: Zone 5-10; Shrub
- *Foliage*: Deciduous. Lighter silvery -green foliage is an excellent foil.
  - <u>Flower:</u> The magenta, almost honey-mead like fragrant, nectar rich flowers of the Butterfly Bush or Buddleia are produced from spring or early summer, flowering starts later the colder the climate, until the first frosts of autumn. Deadheading helps to ensure frequent rebloom through summer into fall but is not required. The fragrant dark reddishpink flowers attract butterflies, bees, hummingbirds, and other garden beneficals.

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