

DESERT WILLOW 'TIMELESS BEAUTY®'

Chilopsis linearis 'Monhews'



Characteristics

- Type: Tree
- Native Range: Southwestern United States to Mexico
- Zone: 7-9
- Height: 12-20 feet
- Spread: 8-15 feet
- Bloom Time: May to September
- Bloom Description: Pink to lavender (sometimes white)
- Sun: Full sun
- Water: Dry
- Maintenance: Low
- Flower: Showy, Fragrant
- Fruit: Showy
- Other: Winter Interest
- Tolerate: Drought, Dry Soil
- Attracts: Hummingbirds, Bees

Culture

Winter hardy to USDA Zones 8-10 where it is best grown in dry well-drained soils in full sun. Excellent drought tolerance. A unique selection notable for its long bloom period. Fragrant, tubular, burgundy and pale lavender blooms appear in clusters at branch ends; flowers do not set seed. Gorgeous specimen to anchor a border, or as a large patio container feature. Ideal for firescaping. Deciduous to semi-evergreen. Timeless Beauty® is a showy desert native with a moderate growth rate and a weeping habit. This most drought and heat resistant flowering tree makes the ideal specimen plant for water challenged areas.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Chilopsis linearis, commonly known as desert willow, is a large shrub or small multi-trunked tree with a loose open crown. It typically grows to 15-25' tall with a spread to 10-15' wide. It is native to gravelly and rocky soils in the Southwestern U.S. and northern Mexico where it is usually found growing in desert grasslands, sandy washes or springs. This is a monotypic genus having only one species with two varieties thereunder, namely, var. *linearis* and var. *arcuata*. Showy, fragrant flowers bloom from April to September with fruits maturing in fall and often remaining on the tree during winter. It is treasured for its delicate, deciduous, willow-like leaves and trumpet-shaped, catalpa-like flowers (each to 1 1/2" long) which bloom in 2-4" terminal panicles from May to September. Flowers are purple to pink but occasionally white. Light green leaves (to 6-12" long spreading to only 1/2" wide) are alternate, simple and linear to narrow lanceolate. Flowers are followed by distinctive, slender, 1/4" wide seed pods (to 6-12" long), each pod containing many winged seeds. *Linearis* is native to far southern Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, western Texas and northern Mexico.

Problems

No serious insect or disease problems.

Garden Uses

Border, Container, Firescaping/Fire Wise, Specimen, Urban Garden