Coyote Mint

Monardella villosa

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7a

Description:

This small native perennial or sub-shrub produces a profusion of small lavender or pink blooms in dense flower heads from late spring to late summer, over a bushy mound of soft, fuzzy, gray-green leaves; nectar-rich and attractive to pollinators

Ornamental Features

Coyote Mint features showy balls of lightly-scented lavender tubular flowers with pink overtones rising above the foliage from late spring to late summer. Its tomentose oval leaves remain grayish green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Coyote Mint is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Coyote Mint is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting



Coyote Mint flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Coyote Mint in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Coyote Mint will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 3 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America..

Coyote Mint is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.