

Botanical Name: Robinia ambigua 'Purple Robe'

Common Name: Purple Robe robinia

Type of Plant: dicot: tree Character deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an upright, mostly single-trunked tree; primary branches form a vase-shaped structure - ascending and spreading branches form a loose open rounded canopy; branches armed with short spines

Height 25' - 40' Spread equal Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors prefers full sun and heat; tolerates some shade at inland sites

Soil tolerates most, including desert soils with alkaline pH

Hardiness hardy (zones 1-24): thrives in zones with cold winters

Morphology:

Leaves odd-pinnately compound with 13-23 leaflets, 10"-16" long, alternate; leaflets 1 1/2"-2" long, oval-narrowly ovate, medium green above, pale green beneath, with mucronate apex

Flowers dark lavender pink-purple, sweet pea shaped, in showy 8"-10" long clusters arising from new stem growth; March-April

Fruit a pod - 2"-3" long

Propagation: hardwood cuttings or budding/grafting

Usage: a medium-sized accent tree for its showy display of purple flowers in spring, followed by filtered shade and its loose graceful form; excellent for sub-tropical, Mediterranean & temperate climate theme gardens; useful as street or lawn tree

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers occasional deep-soak watering; is quite drought-tolerant after established

Fertilizing little required

Pruning develop wide-spreading framework when young; can be headed back to control height; thin out as needed; remove suckers

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions A natural hybrid of R. pseudoacacia

Origin: and R. viscosa Family: Fabaceae