

Botanical Name: Hydrangea macrophylla

Common Name: Bigleaf hydrangea

Type of Plant: dicot; shrub Character deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape large, rounded, symmetrical shrub with large coarse leaves
and rounded flower clusters

Height to 10' Spread to 10' Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors half shade to shade -- can tolerate full sun at coast

Soil prefers a rich, well-drained soil

Hardiness hardy, (zones 3-9, 14-24); prefers mild climates

Morphology:

Leaves ovate, to 9" long, opposite, strongly veined coarsely
serrate, glossy dark green, paler beneath

Flowers rounded to flattened clusters of sterile and fertile
flowers -- clusters to 10" across

Fruit small capsules (fertile flowers only)

Propagation: semihardwood cuttings

Usage: good source of summer color in forest or subtropical
landscapes, good in mass plantings or in containers

Landscape Care:

Watering needs ample watering

Fertilizing give aluminum sulfate for blue flowers, superphosphate for
pink flowers

Pruning head back and thin out in early spring

Pests/Diseases aphids

Special Conditions reduce number of flowering stems for biggest bloom

Origin: Japan Family: Saxifragaceae