

Buddleja - Care Guide

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At a time when we are all striving to help and support the insects and wildlife in our gardens buddleias have a key role to play particularly in feeding butterflies. Along our urban railway lines and on derelict sites buddleia have often self-sown themselves in profusion to provide a welcome display. However we can all do more to include some of the less common or less known species in our own gardens to support butterfly populations.

All the buddleias which Burncoose offers are frost hardy; *B. davidii* varieties exceptionally so. They grow best in full sun in a well-drained soil but are not particularly fussy about soil conditions. The best flowering will take place in a hot, warm, sunny spot perhaps along a wall or fence. Every few years we give our *Buddleia davidii* varieties a good chop down to around 2-3ft in height while also thinning out any older stems or branches. This will encourage more new growth and better, larger, flowers on the vigorous new growth. This keeps the plants tidy and under control and is best undertaken during dormancy in winter. We do occasionally prune *B. lindleyana* and *B. globosa* but the other species are best left untouched (*B. crispa*, *B. alternifolia*, *B. colvilei*, *B. auriculata* and other rare species).

Buddleias are readily propagated from semi-ripe cuttings in summer with bottom heat. *B. davidii* varieties (only) are equally easy from hardwood cuttings set in a cold frame in the autumn.

B. davidii once originated from China and Japan and many named cultivars have been produced by breeders over the generations. The dwarf growing forms have been tried more recently. The choice of colours is yours but the most popular buddleias which we sell are *B. davidii* 'Black Knight' which is deepest purple-blue and 'White Profusion'. These can produce single flower heads of up to 15in in length. If unpruned most *B.*

dauidii will grow (over time) up to around 10ft with, perhaps, a similar spread. That is clearly more than most gardens can cope with and hence the need for regular pruning.



Buddleja davidii 'Black Knight'



Buddleja davidii 'Black Knight'



Buddleja davidii 'Pink Delight'



Buddleja davidii 'Royal Red'



Buddleja davidii 'White Profusion'



Buddleja alternifolia



Buddleja alternifolia



Buddleja alternifolia 'Argentea'



Buddleja colvillei - semi-evergreen



Buddleja colvillei



Buddleja crispa



Buddleja crispa



Buddleja crispa



Buddleja salvifolia



Buddleja salvifolia



Buddleja globosa



Buddleja globosa



Buddleja globosa



Buddleja lindleyana

Buddleja lindleyana



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Buddleja lindleyana



Buddleja lindleyana

B. x weyeriana 'Sungold' is a hybrid between *B. davidii* and *B. globosa*. As you would therefore expect it is very vigorous and produces rounded (not balled) fragrant yellow flowers in long panicles of up to 12in.



Buddleja farreri



Buddleja farreri



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Buddleja 'Pink Pagoda'



Buddleja stenostachya



Buddleja stenostachya



Buddleja stenostachya

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/TOWKUV_mskg?rel=0

Hardwood Cuttings - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here <https://www.youtube.com/hD89TCgAJt0?start=370>

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