

Butterfly-bush

(*Buddleja davidii*)



Habitat: Terrestrial
Family name: Buddlejaceae
Common name: Butterfly-bush, Orange-eye, Summer Lilac, Black Knight.



Butterfly-bush stand

Description:

Butterfly-bush is a deciduous shrub that can grow to between 1-5 m tall with arching stems.

The species is most vigorous in well-drained soil and full sun. It can tolerate drought, low-nutrient soil and can grow in very challenging conditions.

It is highly invasive and spreads profusely by seed in disturbed and natural areas.



Butterfly-bush Flower

Flowering occurs from May to August, when dense clusters of tubular flowers develop. These



Butterfly-bush Flower (Lilac)

flowers have 4 petals and can be purple, white or pink. The flowers produce high quantities of nectar and are attractive to butterflies, hence the common name.



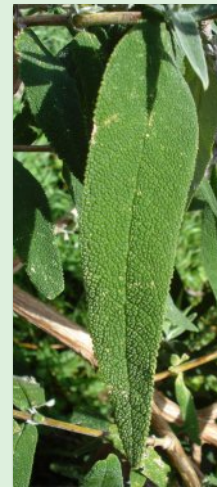
Butterfly-bush Leaves

The leaves are opposite, 15-25 cm long, velvety and ovate to lance shaped, finely serrated, dark green with a fuzzy under-leaf.

Although butterflies use this plant as a nectar source their larvae cannot survive on it.

By replacing native larval food source plants can have a negative impact on wildlife.

Butterfly bushes can be found commonly along riversides and roads and in cleared forests, at times significantly impacting riparian habitat, riverside conditions and impeding forest regeneration.



Butterfly-bush Leaf

The developing pods are small upright and ovate, which may not be readily visible through the remnants of the flower.



Bark



Butterfly-bush Flower (Pink)

Butterfly bush spreads by producing abundant amounts of very lightweight, winged seeds that are dispersed by wind and water.

When mature, seed pods are dark brown and opened at the tip.

The seeds are dust-like particles which can easily be distributed by the wind.



Butterfly-bush Stem (twig)



Butterfly-bush Seed Pods



Butterfly-bush Seeds