



Channelled Heath

Erica canaliculata

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: 9b

Other Names: Channelled Heather, Hairy Grey Heather

Description:

A fine-textured large shrub, covered with rose-pink bell flowers in fall and winter; green needle-like foliage; tolerates poor soils; great for massing in the garden; best in organic highly acidic soil, full sun and absolutely no standing water

Ornamental Features

Channelled Heath is covered in stunning clusters of rose bell-shaped flowers with pink overtones and brown anthers at the ends of the branches from late fall to late winter. It has dark green evergreen foliage which emerges chartreuse in spring. The tiny needles remain dark green throughout the winter.

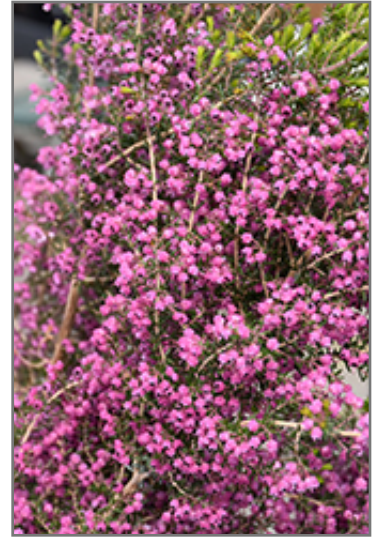
Landscape Attributes

Channelled Heath is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which can make it a great accent feature on this basis alone.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting bees to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Channelled Heath is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting



Channelled Heath flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Planting & Growing

Channelled Heath will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is not originally from North America.

Channelled Heath makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.