

Rose Verbena

Verbena canadensis

Plant Type: Native Spring Ephemeral

Sun Exposure: Full Sun, Part Sun

Season of Interest: Spring, Summer, Fall

Bloom Time: April - October

Bloom Color: Purple

Height: 8 to 12 in.

Spread: 12 to 24 in.

Spacing: 24 in.

Water Needs: Below Average

Maintenance: Very Little

Soil Type: Clay, Loam, Sandy, Rocky

Soil pH: Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

Soil Drainage: Well drained

Pests: None

Diseases: None

Wildlife: Bees, Butterflies, Hummingbirds



Description: Rose Verbena is a herbaceous perennial plant is around 12 inches tall, with multiple sprawling stems. The stems are green to purplish green and branch occasionally. At intervals along the entire length of each stem, there are pairs of opposite leaves. The stems terminate in individual spikes of flowers that are 1 to 6 inches long. Initially these floral spikes are quite short, but they become elongated with age. A

dome-shaped cluster of 10-25 flowers is produced at the end of each spike. The flowers have a pleasant floral fragrance. Afterwards, the flowers are replaced by seed pods. The root system consists of a woody tap root with fibrous side roots. In addition, when they lie on moist ground, the lower nodes of the stems sometimes develop roots. As a result, colonies of plants are produced.

Care and Growing Tips: Ideally, Rose Verbena should be planted in full sun during spring or summer after the last spring frost date. But the plant tolerates partial shade. A quick pinch to the tips of the plant early in the season will encourage thicker foliage. Verbenas grow best if they are not watered from above. Watering once a week during extended dry spells will promote more flowering. If your verbena isn't growing properly, the problems are most likely due to improper growing conditions. Apply a thin layer of slow-release fertilizer in mid to late spring. Repeat the fertilization if you've trimmed the plants to bring them back in bloom. If the soil is too coarse and poor, you may need to fertilize a little more frequently. If blooming is slow during the hot summer months, trim around 1/4th of the plant, including both the height and width and provide enough water and a bit of fertilizer. Within 2-3 weeks, it will be back in bloom.

