

***Buddleia alternifolia* 'Argentea'**

互叶醉鱼草 Hù yè zuì yú cǎo, **Silver Fountain Butterfly Bush**

H: 8'-12'

W: 8'-12'

Light: Full Sun

Water: Moderate to Low

Foliage: Silvery green

Flower: Lavender

Native Range: Central and Western China

Description: Native to the Central and Western Chinese provinces of Gansu, Hebei, Henan, Ningxia, Qinghai, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Sichuan, as well as the Tibet and Inner Mongolia. In habitat *Buddleia alternifolia* is found growing in thickets along riverbanks and dry stream beds at elevations of 5000-13000 feet above sea level. Like the common butterfly bush, *Buddleia davidii*, *B. alternifolia* is low maintenance and easy to grow, but has a distinct irregular weeping habit that sets it apart from its more commonly cultivated relative.

This cultivar of *B. alternifolia* has particularly silvery leaves, hence the cultivar name 'Argentea' which means... well, silvery. It also puts on a show of weeping racemes of lavender flowers that will tempt all the butterflies over from neighboring gardens. This plant is not picky about soil, it will adapt to just about anything as long as it's not kept too wet.

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