

Scotch Heather

(Calluna vulgaris)

Bushy little shrubs 4 to 24 inches tall with tiny, needlelike evergreen leaves. Bears a multitude of tiny pink, lavender, purplish, and white bell-like blooms strung along the branches. Keeps flowering from midsummer until fall.

Zone: 4-10

Light: sun or light shade

Comments

Does best in highly organic, moist soil. Low-acid soil may limit success in some areas unless soil is amended. Use special fertilizer in early spring. Early spring is also good time for planting in zones 4 to 6; fall planting best for zones 7 to 10. For new plants, divide old ones. Space plants 12 inches apart and mulch between to prevent weeds until established growth fills in. Prune back old plants halfway to encourage uniform, compact growth.