

Purple Rooster Bee Balm



Monarda didyma 'Purple Rooster'

- **Use:** 'Purple Rooster' has the darkest, truest purple flowers of any cultivar in a recent Mt Cuba (top plant trial garden in US) trial. Its upright, rigid stems create a strongly vertical aesthetic while the dull green leaves have a rough, sand-papery texture. Because of these traits, 'Purple Rooster' does have a slightly different look compared most of the other bee balms. The impressive thing about 'Purple Rooster' is that no powdery mildew was ever observed on its foliage. This cultivar was selected by The Flower Factory in Stoughton, Wisconsin and named by the owners David and Nancy Nedveck. Bees, butterflies and hummingbirds can't resist their sweet nectar and fragrance. Attract much needed pollinators and feed your soul with these beautiful, contained, carefree bee balms.
- **Exposure/Soil:** They prefer full sun or part shade (in the afternoon). When they are growing, they do not like to dry out. When they are dormant, they like to be dry. They can be grown great in containers as well. Containers should be left dry in the garage or under an eave for the winter. They can handle cold temperatures if they are dry.
- **Growth:** Moderate grower to 30-36" tall and 24-30" wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 4-8; Perennial Mulch around plant in the winter.
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. The aromatic foliage smells like mint when crushed and is often used to flavor teas. This new selection also offers good resistance to powdery mildew, a problem with many older Bee Balms. Just provide good air circulation, sunshine, and plenty of water and these plants will thrive!
- **Flower:** Large, 3" dark purple flowers from late spring until fall frosts. Prune old flowers out for frequent reblooming.



We love to use them as cut flowers! *Monarda* is native to eastern North America, so it is easy to grow and it multiplies quickly. The flowers' sweet nectar attracts scores of hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees to the garden.

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