

Fothergilla gardenii



Plant of Merit

Common Name: dwarf fothergilla

Type: Deciduous shrub

Family: Hamamelidaceae

Native Range: Southeastern United States

Zone: 5 to 8

Height: 1.50 to 3.00 feet

Spread: 2.00 to 4.00 feet

Bloom Time: April to May

Bloom Description: White

Sun: FULL SUN TO PART SHADE

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Hedge

Flower: Showy, Fragrant

Leaf: Good Fall Color

Culture Best grown in moist, acidic, organically rich, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Best flowers occur in full sun, but plants appreciate some afternoon shade in hot and dry summer climates. Performs well in sandy loams. Avoid heavy soils. Plants may spread by root suckers.

Noteworthy Characteristics *Fothergilla gardenii*, is a slow-growing, deciduous, dwarf ornamental shrub that is native to moist lowland coastal plain bogs and savannahs in the southeastern U.S. It typically grows 2-3' tall with an equal spread and takes on a compact, mounded habit. Apetalous flowers in dense terminal bottlebrush-like spikes (to 1-2" long) bloom in spring (April-early May) before the leaves appear. Only the male flowers have color (showy white filaments and yellow anthers). Flowers are aromatic. Thick, pubescent, oblong to obovate, blue-green to green leaves (to 2 1/2" long) have marginal teeth from mid point to leaf apex and are rounded at the base. Leaves turn often brilliant shades of yellow, orange and red in fall.

Problems No serious insect or disease problems.

Uses Compact specimen or accent that may also be grown in groups or massed. Shrub borders, foundations, cottage gardens, open woodland areas or native plant areas. Small hedge.

Source: <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder>