



Ymddiriedolaeth Natur
Gogledd Cymru
North Wales
Wildlife Trust



PLANT PROFILE

Butterfly bush

INVASIVE

FACTS

ID

**TAKE
ACTION**

TIPS

**MORE
PROFILES**

Species description

Scientific name:

Buddleja davidii

Other names:

Orange eye, summer lilac

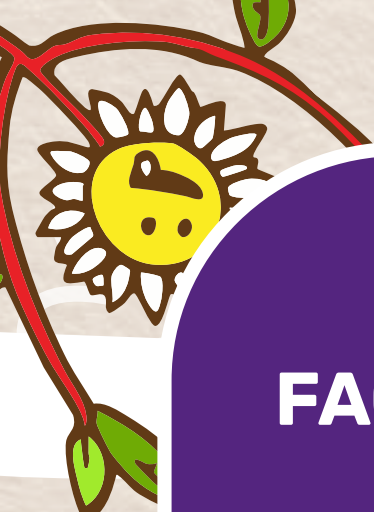
Native to:

China

Cronfa
Treftadaeth
Heritage
Fund



Mewn Partneriaeth â
Llywodraeth Cymru
In Partnership with
Welsh Government



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Interesting facts

Impacts:

Grows in dense thickets displacing other plants. Possible negative impact on pollinators as it is not a good food source for caterpillars. Causes infrastructure damage, especially on the transport network and old buildings.



Habitat:

Tolerates a wide variety of habitats but prefers dry, disturbed ground. Widespread in gardens, waste ground, along railways and canals, pavements, walls and derelict buildings.

A fast growing, large deciduous or semi-evergreen shrub. It was introduced to Britain in 1896 and known to be widely distributed in the wild by 1922.

Butterfly bush is a well-known garden escaper.

How it spreads:

Seeds are dispersed by wind.



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Key identification features



Lance-shaped, opposite, pointed, green or grey-green leaves up to 25cm long, white velvety underneath.



Bark is brown and woody and can be deeply fissured in mature shrubs. Young stems are soft, green and hairy.



Sprays, 30cm or more long, of small, fragrant flowers in various shades of purple.



Seed heads



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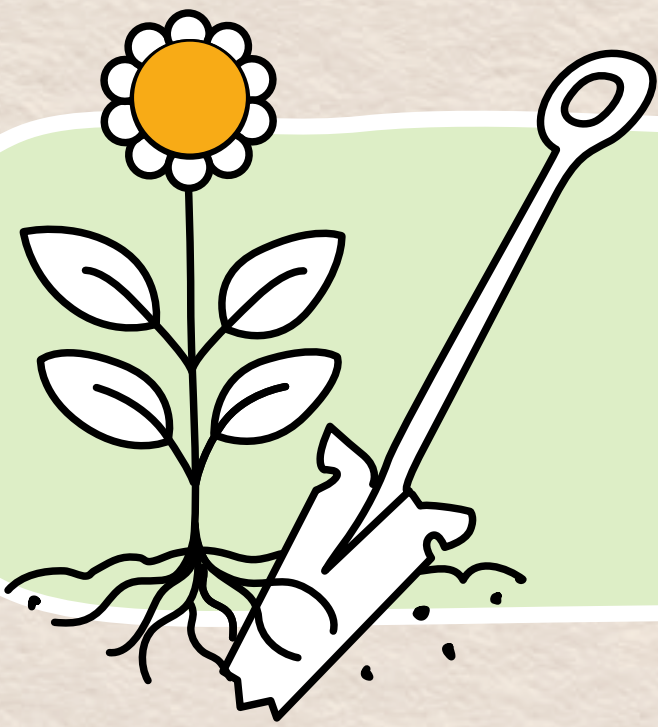
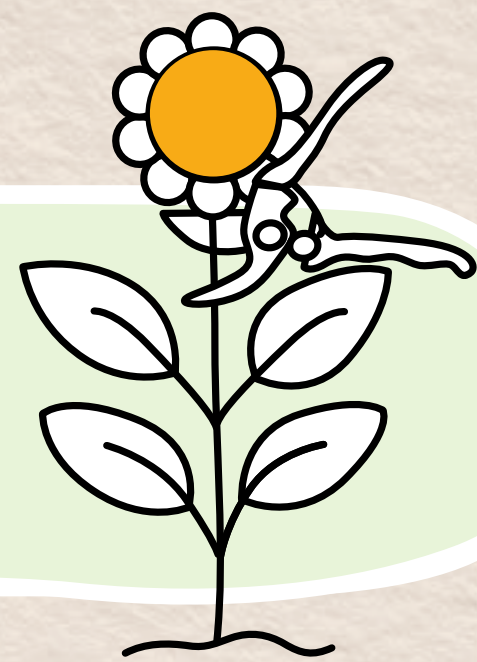
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Take action

Help **stop** the **spread!**

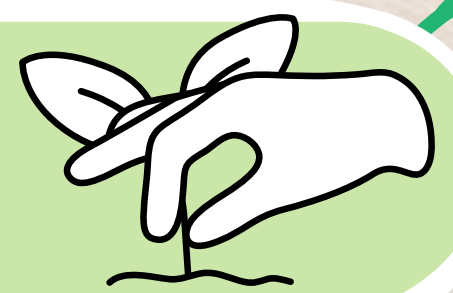


Deadhead after flowers have faded to stop seeds from spreading.



Remove mature plants by digging, taking care to remove the roots.

Remove seedlings by hand-pulling or digging.



It's best not to compost berries at home, instead use council garden waste facilities.

Explore our tips for alternative plant ideas.



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Handy tips

Legislation

Not currently listed in legislation as an invasive species.



**Syringa vulgaris
'Charles Joly'**

Similar species:

Not to be confused
with Common lilac
(*Syringa vulgaris*)



Hawthorn



**Californian
lilac**

Alternative plant ideas

Native

Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)

Non-native

Californian lilac
(*Ceanothus thyrsiflorus*)

Elder 'Gerda' (*Sambucus
nigra* f. *porphyrophylla* 'Gerda')

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