

# SHEL MERDINE

## SECOND NATURE



### Herrenhausen Oregano

*Origanum laevigatum* 'Herrenhausen'

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Spacing: 26 inches

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: 4a

#### Ornamental Features

Herrenhausen Oregano features tiny clusters of violet trumpet-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from mid summer to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its small fragrant oval leaves are forest green in colour. As an added bonus, the foliage turns a gorgeous purple in the fall.

#### Landscape Attributes

Herrenhausen Oregano is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Herrenhausen Oregano is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



*Herrenhausen Oregano flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Herrenhausen Oregano in bloom*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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### **Planting & Growing**

Herrenhausen Oregano will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 26 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Herrenhausen Oregano is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.