

SINCE 1937

# SHEL MERDINE

## SECOND NATURE



### Romany Aster

*Symphyotrichum dumosum 'Romany'*

Height: 16 inches

Spread: 16 inches

Sunlight: ○ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Bushy Aster, Aster dumosus

#### Description:

Presents a profusion of purplish-mauve flowers and attractive lance-like green leaves; prefers cool, moist soil; water the root zone, and not from the top to reduce fungal disease; water regularly to encourage more blooms

#### Ornamental Features

Romany Aster has masses of beautiful lilac purple daisy flowers with yellow eyes at the ends of the stems from late summer to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain dark green in colour throughout the season.

#### Landscape Attributes

Romany Aster is a dense 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 is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease



Romany Aster flowers  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Romany Aster flowers  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Romany Aster is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

### Planting & Growing

Romany Aster will grow to be about 16 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 16 inches. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 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!



*Romany Aster flowers*  
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species. 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.

Romany Aster is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the larger thriller plants stand out. 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.