

North Dakota Tree Selector

Scientific Name: *Amorpha fruticosa*

Family: Fabaceae (Legume)

Hardiness: Zone 3

Leaves: Deciduous

Plant Type: Shrub

Growth

Rate: Medium

Mature Height: >7'

Longevity: Medium

Power Line: Yes

Ornamental

Flowers: Purple

Fruit: Green pods

Fall Color: Yellow

False Indigo

Description

False indigo is a native legume found in moist woodland areas, stream banks and swamp regions, growing from central to eastern Canada south throughout much of the US to northern Mexico. This plant has been cultivated since 1724 and grows well in moist soils. Subject to periodic dieback and regrowth which may be accentuated by drought. Similar to a sub-shrub or half-shrub.

Preferences

Light: Full sun to light shade.

Water: Prefers above average moisture.

Soil: Adaptable to a variety of soil types.

Comments

Plants have pinnately compound leaves. Prune in the late winter to early spring to improve shrub form.

It is considered weedy/invasive in some parts of its range, particularly in the northeastern and northwestern US. It may spread by self-seeding and or suckers to form dense thickets. This method of spreading is very beneficial in conservation or tree row plantings.

Credits: Tree selector website, North Dakota Tree Handbook, <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?>



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www.ag.ndsu.edu/tree-selector

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