

# January Plant of the Month:

*Daphne odora*:

Winter Daphne



Winter Daphne, *Daphne odora*, is a nice fragrant shrub that has wonderful winter interest. As we all know, winter can be a dull, dreary month in the landscape. Why not change that and add this shrub to your woodland garden? It is fairly site specific and it has to have a well prepared, well drained soil area but don't let that deter you because it can dazzle when it is in bloom.

**Growth Habit:** This shrub grows to be about 3 to 6 feet tall and wide. It is a moderately growing shrub with a dense forming habit.

**Landscape Merit and Use:** Winter Daphne is valued for its flowers in the winter. This shrub produces rosey, purple buds that bloom into white flowers. The flowers are very fragrant. After flowering has been completed, red berries appear along the glossy evergreen leaves. This shrub looks great in a woodland garden or along a border of shrubs.

**Growing Conditions:** Winter Daphne prefers dappled to part shade (afternoon shade). This shrub also likes moderate moisture.

**Care:** To keep this shrub nice and dense, heavy pruning is required. It is susceptible to some insects such as aphids. Horticultural sprays are an option for most of its minor insect problems but watch weather conditions and read the label.