



# CHRISTENSEN'S PLANT CENTER

## Wholesale Supplier To Landscape Professionals

"There is nothing better than a friend, unless there is a friend with chocolate."

So you may have noticed some way cool new buddleia on the lot these days. Nice lush plants with huge flowers that seem to last forever. I wanted to take the opportunity to tell everyone about these and dispel a few myths about Buddleia. The thing that makes these buds so nice also makes them environmentally friendly!



Lo and Behold Blue Chip

Budds like 'Miss Molly', the "Lo & Behold" series and the "Flutterby" series are all sterile - they do not produce seed. Some people say when a plant doesn't produce seed it just keeps flowering and trying to produce seed. Really, producing seed takes up so much energy that the plant can rarely pull it off more than once a year. So I

guess when you have time on your hands and nothing else to do you can just keep making yourself look pretty! I have had a couple of people scoff at me when I say that these Buddleia do not seed out everywhere. Check out the [Oregon USDA-approved Buddleia](#) list. Oregon has had the strictest ban on Buddleia for several years. They list the above and several others as being approved for sale in Oregon - and they have spent the money to prove their sterility!

So what's up with the chocolate? Well, being a chocoholic like I am I can understand how you can equate Buddleia as chocolate to Butterflies! They cannot resist them! It is not that Buddleia are fattening to Butterflies it is just that they cannot live on chocolate alone. (I can!) Butterflies need a mix of nectar plants to stay healthy and equally important are Butterfly host plants. The host plants are the group of plants that the larvae (caterpillars) feed on. Do a little research - you would be surprised at the options available as host plants - Liriodendron, Gleditsia, Tilia, Prunus, Physocarpus, and Clethra. Of course there is also Asclepias (A. incarnate is a host plant and A. tuberosa is like cream cheese frosting! - almost as good as chocolate!), Viola and Aster. For some other options in nectar plants try: Hamamelis, Amelanchier, Viburnum, Cephalanthus, Monarda, Echinacea and Phlox. Remember everyone must have a balanced diet to stay healthy!



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'Miss Molly'