

## Vanhoutte spirea

### *Spiraea xvanhouttei*

#### Description

Used as farmstead windbreaks, highway beautification, medicinal properties.

#### Habit

Medium deciduous shrub, vase shaped, 6-8 ft tall with a spread of 12 ft, fibrous/spreading root system, Hybrid cross between *Spiraea cantoniensis* and *Spiraea trilobata*.

#### Leaves

Simple, ovate to rhombic-ovate, apex pointed, base wedge-shaped, teeth irregular, coarse, often incised or obscurely 3-5 lobed, dark, smooth pale glaucous below, 3/4-1 3/4 in long and 1/2-1 1/4 in wide, dark, dull blue green on top; silvery-gray below, purple fall color.

#### Stems

Spreading; arching branches; thin; brown in color; glabrous; branches at 90 degree angles.

#### Flowers





Numerous flowers, form on branch tips; 1-2 in diameter, very showy, umbel-like, white in color; blooms April through May.

### **Fruits and Seeds**

Dry, small follicles, brown in color.

### **Habitat**

Prefers well-drained soil, full sun to light shade, soil tolerant.

### **Reproduction**

By seed or softwood cuttings.

### **Similar**

Threelobe Spirea (*Spiraea trilobata*), a denser, compact parent of Vanhoutte Spirea.

### **Credits**

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