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Ceanothus rigidus

[Synonyms : *Ceanothus cuneatus* var. *rigidus*, *Ceanothus rigidus* var. *albus*]

MONTEREY CEANOTHUS.is an evergreen shrub. Native to western North America (especially central California) it has fragrant, deep purplish-blue flowers.

It is also known as Californian wild lilac.

Rigidus is derived from Latin *rigeo* (inflexible, unbending, stiff, rigid) meaning ‘rigid or stiff’.

Monterey ceanothus is said to have been introduced to Britain in the mid-1800s by Theodor Hartweg (1812-1871) for the English Horticultural Society.