



# The Herb Society of America

## Promising Plants Profiles

### ***Ballota nigra* 'Archer's Variegated'**

**Genus:** *Ballota*

**Specific Epithet:** *nigra*

**Cultivar Name:** 'Archer's Variegated'

**Common Names:** variegated black horehound

**Family:** Lamiaceae

**Flower Color:** lavender-purple

**Form:** perennial

**Hardiness Zone:** 4-9

**Height:** 12-36"

**Width:** 10-24"

**Soil:** well-drained soil

**Sun:** full sun

**Uses:** medicinal, ornamental

**Parts Used:** aerial parts



"This clumping herb belongs to the mint family (Lamiaceae). It has spikes of small lavender-purple flowers from June through August, but it is the cream and green marbled, wrinkly foliage that provides the main focus. As a semi-evergreen, it lends a nice splash of color to the late autumn and early winter garden when other perennials are dying back. It eventually does become dormant, re-sprouting in early spring. *Ballota nigra* tends to be invasive in some east coast states. The variegated version is more restrained but just as hardy and has taken temperatures to -12°F. It comes reasonably true from seed. Preferred conditions are full sun and well-drained soil. Remove reverted stems from the base."

– Scott Kresge, Promising Plants Presentation, 2004

**Plant Source:** Forest Farm, Williams, OR

Image © Deni Bown

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**Disclaimer:** Profiles are intended to provide a brief introduction to each herb. For additional information on uses, including medicinal contraindications, see the References list. The Herb Society of America can not advise, recommend, or prescribe herbs for medicinal use. Please consult a health care provider before pursuing any herbal treatments. Inclusion of vendor information does not indicate an endorsement by The Herb Society of America, and HSA can not guarantee availability of seeds/plants.