Silver Leaf Mountain Ash

Sorbus aria 'Lutescens'



Silver Leaf Mountain Ash foliage Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 40 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5

Description:

A top quality accent tree with clusters of creamy white flowers in spring followed by scarlet-red berries; single silver-gray foliage is unlike other species, excellent oval habit; needs well drained soil, resistant to fireblight

Ornamental Features

Silver Leaf Mountain Ash features showy clusters of white flowers held atop the branches in mid spring. It has attractive grayish green foliage with silver undersides. The fuzzy oval leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding gold in the fall. The orange fruits are held in abundance in spectacular clusters from early to late fall. The smooth silver bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Silver Leaf Mountain Ash is a dense deciduous tree with a shapely oval form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease

Silver Leaf Mountain Ash is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

Silver Leaf Mountain Ash will grow to be about 40 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 4 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.