Indian Laurel Fig

Ficus microcarpa

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 25 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Chinese Banyan, Maylayan Banyan, Taiwan Banyan

Description:

An ornamental accent plant producing large, oval, glossy green leaves; in frost free areas this variety can grow quite large, however it is a popular houseplant in colder climates, and is used in bonsai

Ornamental Features

Indian Laurel Fig is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. The fruits are showy chartreuse pomes carried in abundance in late summer. The fruit can be messy if allowed to drop on the lawn or walkways, and may require occasional clean-up. It has attractive green evergreen foliage. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain green throughout the winter.

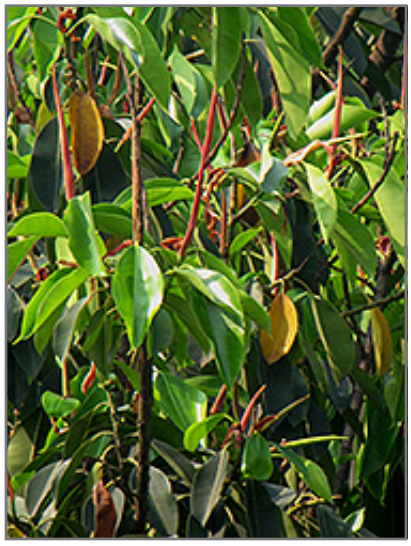
Landscape Attributes

Indian Laurel Fig is a multi-stemmed evergreen tree with a more or less rounded form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, 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, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.



Indian Laurel Fig
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Indian Laurel Fig foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Indian Laurel Fig is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Indian Laurel Fig
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Indian Laurel Fig will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 25 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is not originally from North America.

Indian Laurel Fig is a fine choice for the yard, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.