Variegated California Incense Cedar

Calocedrus decurrens 'Aureovariegata'



Variegated California Incense Cedar foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 60 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6

Other Names: Incensecedar

Description:

A wonderfully formal looking evergreen with a narrow, conical habit of growth; Golden-yellow emerging foliage matures to green; adaptable to many conditions but does best in areas of high humidity; use as an exclamation point or for a tall screening wall

Ornamental Features

Variegated California Incense Cedar is primarily valued in the landscape for its distinctively pyramidal habit of growth. It has yellow-variegated dark green foliage which emerges yellow in spring. The fragrant fan-shaped sprays of foliage remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Variegated California Incense Cedar is an evergreen tree with a distinctive and refined pyramidal 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 is a relatively low maintenance tree, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Variegated California Incense Cedar is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Vertical Accent
- Hedges/Screening

Planting & Growing

Variegated California Incense Cedar will grow to be about 60 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live to a ripe old age of 100 years or more; think of this as a heritage tree for future generations!

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. 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 particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for rich, acidic soils. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided. This is a selection of a native North American species.