Atago Asian Pear

Pyrus pyrifolia 'Atago'



Atago Asian Pear flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5

Description:

This upright, spreading tree produces delicious, golden russeted late season fruit; flowers profusely in early spring, and in fall, produces a striking orange-red display

Edible Qualities

Atago Asian Pear is a small tree that is typically grown for its edible qualities. It produces large gold round pears (which are botanically known as 'pomes') with coppery-bronze overtones and white flesh which are usually ready for picking in late summer. The pears have a sweet taste and a juicy texture.

The pears are most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating

Features & Attributes

Atago Asian Pear is clothed in stunning clusters of white flowers with pink anthers along the branches in early spring before the leaves. It has dark green deciduous foliage which emerges coppery-bronze in spring. The glossy pointy leaves turn an outstanding tomato-orange in the fall. The fruits are showy gold pears with coppery-bronze overtones, which are 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.

This is a deciduous tree with an upright spreading habit of growth. 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 high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Messy
- Disease

Aside from its primary use as an edible, Atago Asian Pear is sutiable for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Orchard/Edible Landscaping

Planting & Growing

Atago Asian Pear will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more. This variety requires a different selection of the same species growing nearby in order to set fruit.

This tree is typically grown in a designated area of the yard because of its mature size and spread. It should only be grown in full sunlight. 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. 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.