Ruscus Bamboo

Shibataea kumasaca



Ruscus Bamboo foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 7 feet

Spread: 7 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Ruscus-leafed Bamboo

Description:

A striking bamboo with ruscus-like leaves on slender canes, making it perfectly suited for privacy screens; a great choice for smaller landscapes because of its size; ideal for containers and well lit indoor enviroments

Ornamental Features

Ruscus Bamboo's attractive pointy compound leaves remain light green in color throughout the year on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth.

Landscape Attributes

Ruscus Bamboo is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Ruscus Bamboo is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Ruscus Bamboo will grow to be about 7 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 7 feet. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant performs well in both full sun and full 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, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. 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. It can be propagated by division.

Ruscus Bamboo is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use 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 growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.