Maejima Variegated Winter Daphne

Daphne odora 'Maejima'



Maejima Variegated Winter Daphne foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Garland Flower, Rose Daphne

Description:

A cherished garden plant with glossy yellow variegated leaves and fragrant dark pink flowers in late winter, on a mounded shrub; a relatively fussy plant, needing light shade and well-drained soil; never move once established

Ornamental Features

Maejima Variegated Winter Daphne has fragrant hot pink tubular flowers with white overtones along the branches from late winter to early spring. It has attractive yellow-variegated dark green foliage. The glossy narrow leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Maejima Variegated Winter Daphne is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should never be pruned except to remove any dieback, as it tends not to take pruning well. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease

Maejima Variegated Winter Daphne is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Maejima Variegated Winter Daphne will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in clay soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.

Maejima Variegated Winter Daphne makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use 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.