Blue Gem Alpine Plum Yew

Podocarpus alpinus 'Blue Gem'



Blue Gem Alpine Plum Yew
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6

Other Names: Syn. Podocarpus lawrencei Blue Gem

Description:

This is a showy dwarf evergreen shrub with noticeable reddish new growth atop the older blue-green needles; changes to a bronze-purple in late fall; adds a wonderful texture to a border or rock garden



Blue Gem Alpine Plum Yew foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Blue Gem Alpine Plum Yew has attractive grayish green-variegated steel blue foliage which emerges brick red in spring on a dwarf conifer with a mounded habit of growth. The needles are highly ornamental and turn purple in the fall, which persists throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Blue Gem Alpine Plum Yew 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 is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and can be pruned at anytime. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Blue Gem Alpine Plum Yew is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Blue Gem Alpine Plum Yew will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It has a low canopy. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub 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. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.