Mirror Bush

Coprosma repens



Mirror Bush
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Looking Glass Plant

Description:

An adaptable shrub that can range in size and habit, depending on environment, but is usually seen as a mid-sized shrub; extremely glossy, dark green foliage is visually stunning; makes a great hedge or border accent; may form dense colonies

Ornamental Features

Mirror Bush has attractive dark green foliage with hints of coppery-bronze which emerges light green in spring on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter. The fruits are showy orange drupes displayed from late summer to early fall.



Mirror Bush foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Mirror Bush is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering
- Invasive
- Self-Seeding

Mirror Bush is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Mirror Bush will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years. This is a dioecious species, meaning that individual plants are either male or female. Only the females will produce fruit, and a male variety of the same species is required nearby as a pollinator.

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, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America.

Mirror Bush makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use 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 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.