Wingthorn Rose

Rosa sericea ssp. omeiensis f. pteracantha



Wingthorn Rose stems
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 7 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 6

Other Names: Winged Thorn Rose

Description:

This amazing variety features arching young stems, bearing enormous, bright red, winged thorns that glow in sunlight; cream colored single blooms are followed by pretty red hips; prune hard to encourage showy thorns; needs full sun and well-drained soil

Ornamental Features

Wingthorn Rose is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. The fruits are showy cherry red hips carried in abundance from mid summer to mid fall. It has attractive bluish-green deciduous foliage which emerges light green in spring. The tiny oval compound leaves are highly ornamental and turn yellow in fall. It features delicate creamy white flowers with gold eyes at the ends of the branches from mid to late spring. The flowers are excellent for cutting. The spiny brick red bark and scarlet branches are extremely showy and add significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

Wingthorn Rose is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a shapely form and gracefully arching branches. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a high maintenance shrub that will require regular care and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease
- Spiny

Wingthorn Rose is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Wingthorn Rose will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 7 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, 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 25 years.

This shrub 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 somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America.