Gotemba Japanese Spikenard

Aralia cordata 'Gotemba'



Gotemba Japanese Spikenard
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 3

Other Names: Golden Japanese Spikenard

Description:

Striking, golden compound leaves and a rounded, tidy habit makes this a wonderful woodland accent plant; clusters of white flowers are airy and visually pleasing; best yellow-gold color in bright sun; deep purple-black berries are not edible

Ornamental Features

Gotemba Japanese Spikenard's attractive large serrated pointy compound leaves emerge lemon yellow in spring, turning gold in color with hints of chartreuse throughout the season on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. It features airy racemes of white star-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems from mid to late summer. It produces deep purple berries with black overtones from early to late fall.

Landscape Attributes

Gotemba Japanese Spikenard is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its wonderfully bold, coarse texture can be very effective in a balanced garden composition.



Gotemba Japanese Spikenard foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cut back to the ground in late winter before active growth resumes. It is a good choice for attracting birds and bees to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering

Gotemba Japanese Spikenard is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens

Planting & Growing

Gotemba Japanese Spikenard will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to be leggy, with a typical clearance of 3 feet from the ground, and should be underplanted with lower-growing perennials. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant performs well in both full sun and full shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.