Yatsubusa Japanese Cedar

Cryptomeria japonica 'Yatsubusa'



Yatsubusa Japanese Cedar
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Tansu Cedar, Tenzan Cedar

Description:

One of the smallest and slowest growing evergreens you're going to find; forms an incredibly dense tight ball of fine needle-like foliage, resembles a green porcupine, ideal for bonsai or for rock garden detail

Ornamental Features

Yatsubusa Japanese Cedar is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the garden for its distinctively pyramidal habit of growth. It has emerald green evergreen foliage. The sprays of foliage turn antique red in the fall, which persists throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Yatsubusa Japanese Cedar is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Yatsubusa Japanese Cedar is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Yatsubusa Japanese Cedar will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 18 inches. 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 40 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial 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 particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for rich, acidic soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided, 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.

Yatsubusa Japanese Cedar 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.