Littleleaf Mockorange

Philadelphus microphyllus

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Small-leaved Mockorange

Description:

A compact deciduous shrub presenting long, arching stems clothed with tiny, oval, medium-green leaves; clusters of showy, very fragrant, small white flowers appear in late spring; a great specimen plant or background shrub; low maintenance



Littleleaf Mockorange flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Littleleaf Mockorange is bathed in stunning clusters of fragrant white flowers at the ends of the branches from late spring to early summer. It has green deciduous foliage. The tiny oval leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color. The peeling brick red bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.



Littleleaf Mockorange in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Littleleaf Mockorange is a dense multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a shapely form and gracefully arching branches. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which can make it a great accent feature on this basis alone.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Littleleaf Mockorange is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Littleleaf Mockorange will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 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 30 years.

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. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. 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 species is native to parts of North America.