Kelsey Yew

Taxus x media 'Kelseyi'



Kelsey Yew
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4

Description:

An ideal landscape shrub with a dense, upright habit, bright green emerging foliage held over dark evergreen needles in spring, and bright red berries; makes a great hedge or garden plant, takes pruning very well, does well in shade

Ornamental Features

Kelsey Yew is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. The fruits are showy red drupes carried in abundance from early to late fall. It has dark green evergreen foliage which emerges light green in spring. The ferny sprays of foliage remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Kelsey Yew is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a shapely oval form. 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. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Kelsey Yew is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Kelsey Yew will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This shrub does best in a location that gets morning sunlight but is shaded from the hot afternoon sun, although it will also grow in full shade. Keep it away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. 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 highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.