New Market Oregon Grape

Mahonia x decumbens



New Market Oregon Grape flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Oregon Grape Holly

Description:

A somewhat aggressive groundcover or small hedge evergreen plant, with spiny leaves reminiscent of holly; flowers are yellow followed by blue berries in late summer, makes a fantastic ground cover

Ornamental Features

New Market Oregon Grape is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. It features an abundance of magnificent blue berries from mid summer to early fall. It features showy racemes of fragrant yellow flowers hanging below the branches in early spring. It has forest green evergreen foliage which emerges burgundy in spring. The spiny pinnately compound leaves turn an outstanding burgundy in the fall, which persists throughout the winter.



New Market Oregon Grape in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

New Market Oregon Grape is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This is a high maintenance shrub that will require regular care and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. It is a good choice for attracting birds 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;

- Suckering

New Market Oregon Grape is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

New Market Oregon Grape will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. 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 approximately 30 years.

This shrub 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, but has a definite preference for acidic soils, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, 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.