Cannonball Falsecypress

Chamaecyparis pisifera 'Cannonball'



Cannonball Falsecypress
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Japanese Falsecypress, Sawara Falsecypress

Description:

A variety of threadleaf falsecypress with fine, almost string-like brilliant gray-green and butter yellow foliage, giving an extremely fine texture; ideal for color and texture contrast in the garden; grows very slowly

Ornamental Features

Cannonball Falsecypress is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the garden for its ornamental globe-shaped form. It has attractive grayish green evergreen foliage which emerges buttery yellow in spring. The threadlike sprays of foliage are highly ornamental and turn lime green in the fall, which persists throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Cannonball Falsecypress is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a more or less rounded 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. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Cannonball Falsecypress is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Cannonball Falsecypress will grow to be about 3 feet 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 medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 70 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 not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. 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.

Cannonball Falsecypress makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used 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.