Winter's Bark

Drimys winteri



Winter's Bark flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 50 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Canelo

Description:

Showy clusters of starry white flowers bloom in mid spring; magnolia like leaves and richly red young stems add interest; left alone this tree could reach 50 feet, but can be pruned to shrub form; protect from cold wind



Winter's Bark in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Winter's Bark features showy clusters of fragrant white star-shaped flowers with buttery yellow eyes at the ends of the branches from mid spring to mid summer. It has attractive dark green foliage with steel blue undersides. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter. The brown bark and crimson branches are extremely showy and add significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

Winter's Bark is an open multi-stemmed evergreen tree with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Winter's Bark is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting

Planting & Growing

Winter's Bark will grow to be about 50 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. 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 pH, but grows best in rich 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 both summer and winter to conserve soil moisture and protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is not originally from North America.