Sweet Shade

Hymenosporum flavum

Height: 40 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Description:

An evergreen tree with a variable growth habit, but is usually upright and narrow; dark green glossy foliage and clusters of yellow tubular flowers in early summer; a shining landscape tree for smaller spaces

Ornamental Features

Sweet Shade features showy clusters of fragrant yellow tubular flowers with creamy white overtones and red throats at the ends of the branches in early summer. It has attractive dark green evergreen foliage which emerges light green in spring. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Sweet Shade is a dense evergreen tree with a strong central leader and a narrowly upright and columnar growth habit. 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.

Sweet Shade is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Vertical Accent
- Hedges/Screening



Sweet Shade
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Sweet Shade flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Sweet Shade will grow to be about 40 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 4 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 to a ripe old age of 100 years or more; think of this as a heritage tree for future generations!

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 is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich 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 species is not originally from North America.