East Bay Nursery

Plum Passion® Vine Maple

Acer circinatum 'MonCir'

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5b



Plum Passion Vine Maple foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Plum Passion Vine Maple
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Description:

A vigorous small ornamental tree with beautiful scarlet emerging foliage that turns plum and lime green in the summer sun, finishing bright red in fall; best with some shelter, needs moist soil, water more if grown in full sun

Ornamental Features

Plum Passion Vine Maple has attractive plum purple-variegated lime green foliage which emerges scarlet in spring on a tree with an upright spreading habit of growth. The lobed leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding red in the fall. It produces brick red samaras from early to mid summer. The fruit can be messy if allowed to drop on the lawn or walkways, and may require occasional clean-up. The smooth gray bark and brick red branches add an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Plum Passion Vine Maple is a multi-stemmed deciduous tree with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and should only be pruned in summer after the leaves have fully developed, as it may 'bleed' sap if pruned in late winter or early spring. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Plum Passion Vine Maple is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Plum Passion Vine Maple will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 2 feet 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 60 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. You may want to 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 requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. 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 over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selection of a native North American species.