East Bay Nursery

Bearss Lime

Citrus x latifolia 'Bearss'

Height: 20 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Other Names: Tahitian Lime, Persian Lime

Description:

A heavy producer of juicy, seedles fruit in winter to early spring; a densely branched habit with a full rounded crown at maturity; a great container plant for the patio or indoors in colder climates

Edible Qualities

Bearss Lime is a small tree that is commonly grown for its edible qualities. It produces green fruit with chartreuse flesh which are usually ready for picking from early to mid winter. The seedlessfruits have a tart taste and a juicy texture.

The fruit are most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Cooking
- Juice-Making
- Sauces

Features & Attributes

Bearss Lime features showy clusters of fragrant white star-shaped flowers with yellow eyes at the ends of the branches from late winter to early spring. It has attractive dark green evergreen foliage. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter. It features an abundance of magnificent green berries from late fall to mid winter.



Bearss Lime fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Bearss Lime fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This is an evergreen 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 plant, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds, bees and butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Aside from its primary use as an edible, Bearss Lime is sutiable for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- Orchard/Edible Landscaping
- Container Planting



Bearss Lime flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Bearss Lime will grow to be about 20 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 is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This tree is typically grown in a designated area of the yard because of its mature size and spread. It 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 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. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Bearss Lime is a good choice for the edible garden, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Its large size and upright habit of growth lend it for use as a solitary accent, or in a composition surrounded by smaller plants around the base 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.