East Bay Nursery

Coast Banksia

Banksia integrifolia



Coast Banksia flowers (faded)
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 80 feet

Spread: 60 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Description:

A large, upright tree presenting narrow, dark green leaves with silvery undersides; magnificent, candle-like yellow cones in fall and winter, persist into spring and summer; a drought and frost tolerant plant that does well in coastal environments

Ornamental Features

Coast Banksia features showy spikes of lemon yellow pincushion flowers along the branches from late fall to mid winter. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has dark green foliage with silver undersides. The narrow leaves remain dark green throughout the winter. The smooth khaki (brownish-green) bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.



Coast Banksia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Coast Banksia is a dense 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 is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Coast Banksia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Hedges/Screening
- Windbreaks and Shelterbelts
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens

Planting & Growing

Coast Banksia will grow to be about 80 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 60 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 medium 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 should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.