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Ballet Japanese Stewartia

Stewartia pseudocamellia 'Ballet'



Ballet Japanese Stewartia
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 20 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 6a

Description:

A graceful selection with magnificent mottled bark in cream, brown and tan; showy large white flowers with gold centers in early summer; upright, vase shaped habit with spreading branches; needs organic, acidic soil and protection from drying winds

Ornamental Features

Ballet Japanese Stewartia features delicate white cup-shaped flowers with orange anthers along the branches in mid summer. It has forest green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves turn outstanding shades of orange and in the fall. The mottled khaki (brownish-green) bark is extremely showy and adds significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

Ballet Japanese Stewartia is a dense deciduous tree with an indistinguished 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 after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Ballet Japanese Stewartia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

Ballet Japanese Stewartia 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 3 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 70 years or more.

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This tree performs well in both full sun and full shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.