Longfellow's Greenhouses

Red Tree Peony

Paeonia suffruticosa 'Red'



Red Tree Peony flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Description:

A beautiful woody peony for the garden, with bold flowers in a rich red with prominent yellow stamens, great as an accent in the garden or massed in borders; unlike perennial peonies, remember not to prune this variety

Ornamental Features

Red Tree Peony features bold lightly-scented double red flowers with yellow eyes at the ends of the branches from mid to late spring. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has attractive light green deciduous foliage. The narrow compound leaves are highly ornamental but do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Red Tree Peony is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub 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 shrub, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It is a good choice for attracting 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.

Red Tree Peony is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Red Tree Peony will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It has a low canopy, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

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This shrub 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 quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided. 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.

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