Longfellow's Greenhouses

Nordmann Fir

Abies nordmanniana

Height: 60 feet

Spread: 25 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Caucasian Fir

Description:

A beautiful yet uncommon evergreen, very upright and open, spire-shaped, like a perfect Christmas tree; somewhat particular about its growing conditions, not for dry or windy sites, does not tolerate heat

Ornamental Features

Nordmann Fir is primarily valued in the landscape for its distinctively pyramidal habit of growth. It has dark green evergreen foliage. The needles remain dark green throughout the winter. The smooth gray bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Nordmann Fir is a dense evergreen tree with a strong central leader and a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. 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 usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. It is a good choice for attracting birds and squirrels to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Nordmann Fir is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Vertical Accent
- Hedges/Screening



Nordmann Fir
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Nordmann Fir foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Nordmann Fir will grow to be about 60 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 25 feet. It has a low canopy, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 80 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in moist to wet soil, and will even tolerate some standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy 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 species is not originally from North America.

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