Cypress, Soft Serve

Chamaecyparis pisifera 'Dow Whiting'

Height: 10 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Japanese Falsecypress, Sawara Falsecypress

Description:

This beauty features interesting bright green foliage with silvery blue undersides; slow growing and densely pyramidal in habit; excellent for borders and screening

Ornamental Features

Cypress, Soft Serve is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its distinctively pyramidal habit of growth. It has attractive green foliage with steel blue undersides. The scale-like sprays of foliage are highly ornamental and remain green throughout the winter. The shaggy antique red bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Cypress, Soft Serve is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which can make it a great accent feature on this basis alone.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Cypress, Soft Serve is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Cypress, Soft Serve
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Cypress, Soft Serve foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Accent
- Vertical Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Cypress, Soft Serve will grow to be about 10 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 60 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. This plant should be periodically fertilized throughout the active growing season with a specially-formulated acidic fertilizer. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.



Cypress, Soft Serve
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Special Attributes

Evergreens need to be watered during the winter. Our desert climate especially in late winter to early spring evergreens can suffer during next growing season. An easy way to remember check for dryness on the holidays Halloween, Thanksgiving, New Year's Day, Valentines Day & Easter.