Sweetgum, Happidaze

Liquidambar styraciflua 'Hapdell'

Height: 45 feet

Spread: 25 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 5b

Other Names: Liquid Amber

Description:

A tall, pyramidal shade tree with interestingly shaped leaves that turn a lovely maroon in fall; crown becomes more rounded with maturity; this variety is reported to be seedless, so no messy cleanups; does not like sandy soil but is otherwise vigorous

Ornamental Features

Sweetgum, Happidaze has forest green deciduous foliage on a tree with a pyramidal habit of growth. The lobed palmate leaves turn an outstanding burgundy in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Sweetgum, Happidaze is a deciduous 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 is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. 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.

Sweetgum, Happidaze is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade



Sweetgum, Happidaze in fall
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Sweetgum, Happidaze in fall
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Sweetgum, Happidaze will grow to be about 45 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 25 feet. It has a high 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 for 80 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. 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 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 somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species.

Clean up Rating (1-5) 1=least effort 5=most effort

Clean Up Rating (5): Seeds are in 1 1/2 inch spiked pods that mature and open in 1 year. Clean up for pods is rake or scoop them up and bag them. Clean up for leaves is blowing or raking onto lawn and mow or bag.



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