Spruce, Silver Blue Serbian

Picea omorika 'Silberblue'



Spruce, Silver Blue Serbian foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Silberblau Serbian Spruce

Description:

Pyramidal form and dense graceful branches producing fine green needles with silver blue undersides; a habit that is wider at the bottom, sweeping up to a spire; this stunning tree commands attention; loves deep rich well drained soil and full sun

Ornamental Features

Spruce, Silver Blue Serbian is primarily valued in the landscape for its distinctively pyramidal habit of growth. It has attractive green foliage with silvery blue undersides which emerges light green in spring. The needles are highly ornamental and remain green throughout the winter. The smooth brick red bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Spruce, Silver Blue Serbian is a dense evergreen tree with a strong central leader and a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Spruce, Silver Blue Serbian is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Vertical Accent

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Planting & Growing

Spruce, Silver Blue Serbian will grow to be about 30 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 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 does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. 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 or pH. 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. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

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

Clean Up Rating (3): Cones are oval shaped 2 to 3 inches long, young cones are purple changing to dark brown as they mature. Clean up is blow or rake cones, scoop and bag them. Spruce lose inner needles, they can be blown or raked onto the lawn and mow or bag them. In the Pacific Northwest Desert evergreens need to be watered during the winter as well as the growing season. 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 is on the holidays Halloween, Thanksgiving, New Year's Day, Valentines Day & Easter. During the growing season is maintain regular deep watering.