Golden Rain Tree, Summerburst

Koelreuteria paniculata 'JFS-Sunleaf'

Height: 30 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Varnish Tree, Pride of India

Description:

An exceptional small ornamental tree with airy panicles of golden yellow flowers in mid summer followed by prominent rose-pink lantern-shaped fruit in fall, beautiful fall color; appreciated for its symmetry, heat resistance, and improved foliage

Ornamental Features

Golden Rain Tree, Summerburst features airy plumes of yellow flowers rising above the foliage in mid summer. It features abundant showy pink capsules from early to mid fall. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The glossy pinnately compound leaves turn outstanding shades of yellow and in the fall. The furrowed gray bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Golden Rain Tree, Summerburst is a dense deciduous tree with a more or less rounded 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 tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Messy

Golden Rain Tree, Summerburst is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade



Golden Rain Tree, Summerburst flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Golden Rain Tree, Summerburst in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Golden Rain Tree, Summerburst will grow to be about 30 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 feet. It has a low 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 60 years or more.

This tree 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. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. 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, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.

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

Clean Up Rating (4): Erect airy clusters of golden yellow flowers in mid summer can be blown or raked onto the lawn and mowed or bagged. Then prominent rose-pink lantern-shaped fruit along with leaves drop in fall, that can be blown or raked onto the lawn then mowed or bagged.