Hydrangea Tree, Limelight

Hydrangea paniculata 'Limelight (tree form)'

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Description:

This selection is grafted onto a standard to raise the flowers to eye level, features enormous, dense upright panicles of flower heads that start out a soft lime green, fading over the summer to white and finally brown in fall

Ornamental Features

Hydrangea Tree, Limelight features bold conical lime green flowers with white overtones at the ends of the branches from mid summer to late fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Hydrangea Tree, Limelight is a deciduous tree, selected and trained to grow in a small tree-like form with the primary plant grafted high atop a standard. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This is a high maintenance tree that will require regular care and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Hydrangea Tree, Limelight is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Hydrangea Tree, Limelight in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Hydrangea Tree, Limelight (topiary form)
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Hydrangea Tree, Limelight will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 4 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 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. 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 highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Hydrangea Tree, Limelight is a fine choice for the yard, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.

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

Clean Up Rating (2): The blooms get pruned and bagged. The leaves can be blown or raked onto the lawn and mowed or bagged.