Feathery Cassia

Senna artemisioides

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 8a

Other Names: Feathery Senna, Silver Cassia,

Description:

A rounded, fine shrub with narrow, needle-like gray-green leaves; covered with clusters of yellow flowers from late winter into spring, with lesser flushes throughout the year; excellent as a loose screen or large container plant; very drought tolerant

Ornamental Features

Feathery Cassia features showy clusters of fragrant yellow pea-like flowers along the branches from late winter to late spring. It has attractive grayish green evergreen foliage. The fuzzy pinnately compound needles are highly ornamental and remain grayish green throughout the winter. The fruits are showy lime green pods displayed in early summer.

Landscape Attributes

Feathery Cassia is an open multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a more or less rounded 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 shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.



Feathery Cassia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Feathery Cassia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Feathery Cassia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Feathery Cassia in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Feathery Cassia will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It has a low canopy, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is 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.

Feathery Cassia makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used 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.