Golden Leaf Hazel

Corylus avellana 'Aurea'



Golden Leaf Hazel
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: European Filbert, European Hazel

Description:

A wonderful large shrub that has a splendid display of creamy yellow catkins in late winter or early spring, followed by attractive yellow-golden leaves; exceptional when viewed against a dark backdrop; a handsome addition to a large border area



Golden Leaf Hazel foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Golden Leaf Hazel is draped in stunning buttery yellow catkins hanging below the branches from late winter to early spring before the leaves. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has attractive grayish green deciduous foliage which emerges yellow in spring. The crinkled oval leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding red in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Golden Leaf Hazel is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub 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 shrub 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;

- Suckering

Golden Leaf Hazel is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Golden Leaf Hazel will grow to be about 12 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot 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 approximately 30 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. 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. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.