Gentsch White Hemlock

Tsuga canadensis 'Gentsch White'

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Canadian Hemlock, Eastern Hemlock

Description:

An impressive color accent evergreen for the garden, featuring soft green foliage with splashes of white on a compact globe-shaped shrub, emerging foliage is a pure creamy white; annual pruning will result in the most vigorous colors; needs organic soil

Ornamental Features

Gentsch White Hemlock is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its decidedly oval form. It has attractive white-variegated green foliage which emerges creamy white in spring. The needles are highly ornamental and remain green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Gentsch White Hemlock is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a shapely oval 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 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;

- Insects

Gentsch White Hemlock is recommended for the following landscape applications;

Gentsch White Hemlock foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Gentsch White Hemlock
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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

Planting & Growing

Gentsch White Hemlock will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This shrub performs well in both full sun and full shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. 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. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species.