Pencil Point Juniper

Juniperus communis 'Suecica'

Pencil Point Juniper
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Description:

This very narrow upright dwarf is fast growing; foliage matures to a handsome silvery steel and is more open than other similar cultivars; upright form makes an excellent border accent or screen and are excellent in containers

Ornamental Features

Pencil Point Juniper is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its rigidly columnar form. It has grayish green evergreen foliage. The needles remain grayish green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Pencil Point Juniper is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a narrowly upright and columnar growth habit. 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 is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Pencil Point Juniper is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Vertical Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Pencil Point Juniper will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 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 approximately 30 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. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selection of a native North American species.

Pencil Point Juniper makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use 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.