

NEAT AND PETITE PLANTS FOR YOUR GARDEN

Aquilegia vulgaris: Columbine cultivars ‘Clementine Red’ and ‘Clementine Rose’. In 2008, we sold Clementine Red for the first time at the nursery. The plants were in bloom when we put them on display. We sold out in 3 days! The plants are compact and will re-bloom if cut back.

Athyrium nipponicum ‘Apple Court’: There are so many cultivars of Japanese painted fern becoming available that it is impossible to keep up with them. They are all lovely and serve as wonderful additions to shade gardens with their contrasting stem and foliage colors.

Aucuba japonica ‘Rozannie’: This aucuba has been around for a number of years. This plant is a dwarf evergreen with large leaves and red berries. It has perfect flowers thus no male pollinator is needed. The plant attains a height and spread of 3x3 feet and does great in part shade.

Cephalotaxus harringtonia, ‘Duke Gardens’: Looking for a beautiful evergreen foundation shrub that can take sun or part shade equally well? Do you want a shrub that is not fast growing, easy to maintain, disease and insect free? This is the plant. We finally have enough plants on hand that we can recommend it. This plant does not grow fast but it does make a nice 3 feet high by 5 feet wide plant in ten years. We have two in our backyard that are in full sun and are only 2.5 feet high x 4 feet wide after ten years. We have taken excellent care of these plants....the sun seems to have slowed the growth down quite a bit.

Chamaecyparis obtusa ‘Meroke’: Dwarf conifers have always been our favorite plants. ‘Meroke’ is a great false cypress exhibiting nice gold color, slow upright growth and good drought resistance. We have one planted at our mailbox that is only 3 feet wide by 5.5 feet tall after fourteen years of growth. Bagworms and mites have never touched it. And...we have never touched it with pruners.

Erica carnea ‘Springwood White’: Heath have been around for a long time as small shrubs. This particular one makes a great groundcover. Heath bloom in winter and early spring when very few plants are showing color.

Ilex X ‘Rock Garden’: Hollies are making a dramatic comeback with the introduction of numerous varieties producing hugh berry sets on dwarf to medium size plants. ‘Rock Garden’ has been around for a long time but nurseries seldom stock it. It is a real slow grower. We have a specimen at our house that is 3 feet high and 22” wide. It is thirteen years old. The last two winters we finally had decent berry sets. The birds like the berries and our plant was full of berries.

Hydrangea macrophylla ‘Mini Penny’: This is a diminutive large leaved hydrangea that re-blooms throughout the spring and summer. The plant is patented but not overly expensive (if you buy from our nursery). We like Mini Penny and Penny

Mac better than Endless Summer. We have an Endless Summer and Penny Mac planted side by side at our nursery for comparison. Height of Mini Penny is supposedly three feet.

Leucothoe populifolia ‘Taylor’s Treasure’ (patented): This plant has been a surprise for us at the nursery. We started selling one gallon plants that did not realize their full potential. We transplanted some into 3 gallon containers and the foliage grew larger in size and the new growth really showed its color. The growth is copper-toned and beautiful. Plants we first installed 2 ½ yrs. ago are 2 feet high by 3 feet wide and thick. They make an interesting plant in the shade or semi-shade; almost tropical in appearance.

Viburnum obovatum ‘Reifler’s Dwarf’: This is a semi-evergreen snowball bush with the ability to re-bloom. A lot of literature says it blooms in late winter. Our plant in the ground bloomed in January last year. The plant bloomed again in October of this past year. It is in full sun and is 20” tall by 18” wide. When this plant is in flower, it is quite attractive.

Tsuga Canadensis ‘Jeddeloh’: another dwarf conifer, the Birds’ Nest Hemlock. This dwarf hemlock is one of our all time favorites. One of our customers has one 4’ across and 3’ high. The shape of the plant just dares you to sit on it. The depression is still quite pronounced in the middle even after 15 years of age. It is best to site hemlocks in high shade for good growth and to lessen mite damage in hot, dry weather.

Matteuccia struthiopteris or Ostrich fern, ‘The King’: This plant belongs in a Jurassic Park movie. We planted a standard Ostrich fern in a northern exposure garden in Kernersville back in 1997. The plant has colonized to a spread of 8 feet and a height of 5-6 feet. Some gardeners have experienced problems getting this fern to size. We suggest giving it plenty of moisture and well-drained deep soil. This is more heat tolerant than standard Ostrich ferns and does colonize extremely fast.