Prostrata Hemlock

Tsuga canadensis 'Prostrata'



Prostrata Hemlock
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 10 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Canadian Hemlock, Eastern Hemlock

Description:

A dwarf variety that is very low growing with fine dark green foliage; can be used as a low accent or groundcover; needs organic, acidic soil, adequate moisture and shelter from drying winds

Ornamental Features

Prostrata Hemlock is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the garden for its broadly spreading habit of growth. It has dark green evergreen foliage which emerges light green in spring. The needles remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Prostrata Hemlock is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a ground-hugging habit of growth. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which should be used to full effect.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects

Prostrata Hemlock is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Prostrata Hemlock will grow to be about 10 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial 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 covering it with a thick layer of mulch in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species.