Golden Atlas Cedar

Cedrus atlantica 'Aurea'



Golden Atlas Cedar
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 50 feet

Spread: 40 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 5b

Description:

One of the most valuable landscape trees for its unique beauty with a wide, spreading habit and golden needles, incredibly stately when mature; leave a very large open space for this tree to reach its peak value in maturity

Ornamental Features

Golden Atlas Cedar is primarily valued in the landscape for its characteristic tiered habit of growth. It has attractive gold evergreen foliage. The needles are highly ornamental and remain gold throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Golden Atlas Cedar is an open evergreen tree with a strong central leader and a stunning habit of growth which features almost oriental horizontally-tiered branches. 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 is a relatively low maintenance tree, and usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Golden Atlas Cedar is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Vertical Accent

Planting & Growing

Golden Atlas Cedar will grow to be about 50 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 40 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 5 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 80 years or more.

This tree 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 not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, 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 selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

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