

JUNE 2012

GOLD FOLIAGE



Ornamental plant breeders have been working on gold and yellow foliage for many years. The addition of unique colours to the landscape is an excellent option to add interest and texture. While most plants are prized for their flowers, some are appreciated for their leaves as colourful golden foliage adds interest to the seasons and highlights to the landscapes.

Gorgeous golden foliage is rich in colour and contrast. Use with broad or narrow leaves as an excellent textural contrast. Chartreuse foliage lights up shady corners. Outstanding colour to contrast with dark foliage.



Pinus mugo 'Winter Gold' (Winter Gold Pine) Zone 2 - Unique yellow needles make this slow growing conifer a must have. In autumn the needle tips turn a brighter yellow, holding well into the winter. 1M/3' tall and wide. Pictured at right.



Acer platanoides 'Princeton Gold' (Princeton Gold Maple) Zone 4 - Distinct bright yellow foliage is unique to this variety. Oval habit. 10.5M/35' tall by 9M/30' wide. Pictured at left.



Sambucus canadensis 'Aurea' (Golden Elderberry) Zone 3 - Golden foliage all season long. Tiny white flowers in late June are followed by cherry-red berries. Broad round form. 3M/10' tall by 1.5/5' wide. Pictured at middle right.



Rhus typhina 'Tiger Eyes' (Cutleaf Staghorn Sumac) Zone 4 - Lime green foliage turns scarlet, orange and yellow in fall. Tropical looking foliage, open branching form. 2M/6' tall and wide. Pictured at middle left.



Cercis Canadensis 'The Rising Sun' (The Rising Sun Redbud) Zone 6 - New leaves have a striking peach colour when they first emerge. Rosy-purple flowers. 3.5M/12' tall by 4.5M/15' wide. Pictured at left.

Metasequoia glyptostroboides 'Gold Rush' (Gold Rush Dawn Redwood) Zone 5 - Fast growing, narrow, upright deciduous conifer. Soft, feathery new growth emerges light green changing to yellow for the summer season and orange-brown in autumn. Reddish brown bark peels with age. 7.5M/25' tall in 10 years. Pictured at right.



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