

Botanical Name: Podocarpus gracilior (P.. elongatus)

Common Name: Fern Pine

Type of Plant: conifer: tree Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a plant of variable habit, mostly single-trunked, with
ascending and spreading branches forming a dense rounded somewhat billowy
canopy; the outer branches tend to hang down

Height 20'-40'(60') Spread 1/2-equal Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full or partial sun; can tolerate shade at inland locale

Soil requires a well-draining loam; avoid alkaline

Hardiness some frost (zones 8-9, 13-24): grows best in mild climate

Morphology:

Leaves a modified needle: alternate to whorled, linear-lanceolate
2"-4" long, 1/8"-1/4" width, mature foliage has blue-green color and is stiff

Flowers plants are dioecious: reproductive structure are
inconspicuous

Fruit a cone: 1/2" diameter, small, fleshy

Propagation: semi-hardwood or hardwood cuttings

Usage: many usages, based on method of pruning; used as accent
tree for fernlike foliage; can be easily espaliered or developed as topiary;
develops into a large shade tree if not headed back

Landscape Care:

Watering regular preferred; not very drought tolerant

Fertilizing as needed; check for chlorosis in wet adobe soils

Pruning to shape desired, anytime

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions

Origin: E. Africa Family: Podocarpaceae