

Botanical Name: Pittosporum crassifolium 'Compactum'

Common Name: Dwarf karo

Type of Plant: dicot; shrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape dense, rounded, compact shrub with gray-green foliage  
tightly arranged on stems; forms a cushion-shaped canopy

Height 3-4' Spread 3-4' Growth Rate slow

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to part shade

Soil prefers a well-drained soil

Hardiness some frost (zones, 9,14-17,19-24)

Morphology:

Leaves oblanceolate, whorled to 2" long, gray-green leathery,  
whitish tomentose beneath; densely set on stems

Flowers 1/4" maroon flowers in clusters of 8-10 in spring

Fruit 3 valved black capsule to 1" wide

Propagation: semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: good compact plant for facer or low hedge; good source  
of gray color in the landscape, distinctive flowers; good in small scale  
gardens because of compact size and low maintenance needs

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers regular watering; tolerates drought when  
established

Fertilizing balanced in spring

Pruning may be sheared if necessary; none usually required

Pests/Diseases aphids, scale, root rot

Special Conditions tolerates sea coast very well

Origin: New Zealand Family: Pittosporaceae