

Botanical Name: Myrtus communis 'Compacta'

Common Name: Dwarf myrtle

Type of Plant: dicot; shrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape erect, very densely branched, develops into full, oval to rounded canopy (denser than the species)

Height 5-10' (15') Spread 4-10' Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full/partial sun

Soil tolerates most, including alkaline

Hardiness hardy (zones 8-24); best in warm, sunny locations

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, opposite, elliptic-ovate, 1/2-3/4" long, bright green, shiny, pungent when crushed

Flowers creamy white, 3/4" across, many stamened, fragrant, both terminal and axillary -- spring

Fruit blue black berry, 1/2" long

Propagation: seed, semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: classic hedge plant or topiary material because of its dense form and small leaves -- large filler, screens, slope plantings

Landscape Care:

Watering occasional deep soak -- avoid excessive watering

Fertilizing little required after established

Pruning to shape desired anytime

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions

Origin: Europe; Asia Family: Myrtacea