Golden European Cranberry

Viburnum opulus 'Aureum'



Golden European Cranberry flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: European Highbush Cranberry

Description:

A beautiful large upright spreading shrub, featuring soft yellow leaves, showy white clusters of rayflowers in spring followed by brilliant red berries in fall, and good fall color; hardy and adaptable, makes a great color accent for the garden

Ornamental Features

Golden European Cranberry features showy white lacecap flowers held atop the branches in late spring. It has attractive chartreuse deciduous foliage which emerges yellow in spring. The large serrated lobed leaves are highly ornamental but do not develop any appreciable fall color. The red fruits are held in abundance in spectacular clusters from late summer to late winter. The smooth gray bark and gold branches add an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Golden European Cranberry is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. 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 shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects

Golden European Cranberry is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Golden European Cranberry will grow to be about 12 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.