Ruby Spice Ninebark

Physocarpus opulifolius 'Ruby Spice'



Ruby Spice Ninebark foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Eastern Ninebark

Description:

A beautiful upright shrub with emerging scarlet foliage that matures to deep red; features small pink flowers followed by subtle reddish fruit, and interesting peeling papery bark; extremely tough and durable, good for massing or general garden use

Ornamental Features

Ruby Spice Ninebark features showy clusters of pink flowers at the ends of the branches from late spring to early summer. It has burgundy deciduous foliage which emerges scarlet in spring. The serrated lobed leaves turn purple in fall. It produces red capsules from early to mid fall. The peeling tan bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Ruby Spice Ninebark is a dense multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Ruby Spice Ninebark is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Ruby Spice Ninebark will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It has a low canopy, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. 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 selection of a native North American species.