White Enkianthus

Enkianthus perulatus



White Enkianthus flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6a

Description:

A delicate garden shrub for the collector, with dainty white bell-shaped flowers in spring and spectacular scarlet, orange, and yellow fall color; very fussy about growing conditions, a perfectly drained moist acidic soil is essential

Ornamental Features

White Enkianthus features dainty racemes of lightly-scented white bell-shaped flowers hanging below the branches from early to mid spring before the leaves. It has green deciduous foliage. The small pointy leaves turn outstanding shades of yellow, orange and red in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

White Enkianthus 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 has no significant negative characteristics.

White Enkianthus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

White Enkianthus will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 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 slow 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 does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is not originally from North America.