

SOME COMMONLY USED YEWS

PAUL DROBOT

The genus *Taxus* (Yews) provide the home landscaper with a group of versatile needled evergreen shrubs. For the most part they are trouble free, except for some winter burn on some cultivars. Planting the shrubs in areas of winter winds and strong winter sun causes this. Avoiding these situations and using better cultivars can eliminate the problem..

Culture:

Light Full sun to shade

Soil Must be well drained, prefers a moist loam but very adaptable

Prune Easy to shear and prune. Prune new growth in the spring and the new flush of growth in the late summer

The sizes listed with the plants is quite variable, since the landscaper who owns and operates the pruning tools determines the ultimate size of the plant. Many of the yews can reach tree size.

SPREADERS

Andersons Yew (*Taxus cuspidate* Thayera)

I use this Yew in areas I want the plant to grow fast and get large. Used this cultivar for over 20 years and had little or no winter burn. A very reliable plant.

Tauntoni Yew

I use this Yew when I want a slower growing, smaller yew. Used this cultivar for over 20 years and it has proven very reliable for me. Great for foundation plantings.

Densiformis (Dense Yew)

One of the most common Yews available. Very reliable.

Browni Yew

A somewhat globular shaped Yew. The new growth has a brownish tint. Seems to be resistant to winter burn.

Wardi Yew

A lower growing flat topped Yew. One of the lower growing cultivars

Golden Sunburst

New growth is yellow than fades to green. The underside of the needles are stripped with light green and yellow. I like this plant in gardens for the yellow spring growth effect. Has been very reliable for me.

UPRIGHTS

Upright Yew

A pyramidal upright growing yew. Can grow into a tree but easily kept smaller by pruning.

Hicksii Yew

This yew grows in an erect upright form. Best used as a hedge yew.