

F2168 (June 2024)

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North Dakota Tree Selector

General

Scientific Name: *Juniperus horizontalis*

Family: Cupressaceae (Cypress)

Hardiness: Zone 2

Leaves: Evergreen

Plant Type: Shrub

Growth

Rate: Slow

Mature Height: <4'

Longevity: Long

Power Line: Yes

Ornamental

Flowers: Inconspicuous

Fruit: Small blue berry-like cone

Fall Color: n/a

Creeping Juniper

Description

A valuable ground cover in landscapes across the U.S. and southern Canada. Native throughout North America. It is typically found growing in rocky or sandy soils including rock outcroppings, stony slopes, coastal cliffs, prairies, sand dunes. An excellent xeriscape plant because of its low water and maintenance needs.

Preferences

Light: Full sun.

Water: Low water needs.

Soil: Adapted to a wide variety, intolerant of wet soils.

Comments

Several cultivated varieties are available. Some common ones include:

'Wiltonii' – a female cultivar noted for its excellent, dense, prostrate form. It features silver blue foliage that acquires purple tones in winter.

'Mother Lode' – a sport of Wiltonii that has distinctive gold variegated foliage that turns orangish in winter.

'Blue Chip' – this prostrate grower maintains its steel-blue foliage all year.

