F2168 (June 2024)
Joseph Zeleznik, Ph.D., Extension Forester

The state of the stat

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.







Credits: Tree Selector Website, http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=c217

NDSU EXTENSION

North Dakota State University Fargo, North Dakota

The NDSU Extension does not endorse commercial products or companies even though reference may be made to tradenames, trademarks or service names. County commissions, North Dakota State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic infration, maritial status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to Vice Provost for Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 201, NDSU Main Campus, 701-231-7708, ndsu.eoaa@ndsu.edu. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, 701-231-7881.