Ground Hug™ Aronia

Aronia melanocarpa 'UCONNAM012'

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Chokeberry

Description:

A low, spreading variety with glossy dark green leaves, and showy white flowers in spring; a great choice for edging and groundcover; brilliant red foliage in fall to contrast the dark purple-black fruit; very adaptable and grows well in tough conditions



Ground Hug Aronia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Ground Hug Aronia features showy panicles of white star-shaped flowers with pink overtones at the ends of the branches in mid spring. It features an abundance of magnificent black berries from late summer to mid fall. It has forest green foliage with olive green undersides. The glossy oval leaves turn an outstanding red in the fall.



Ground Hug Aronia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Ground Hug Aronia is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a ground-hugging 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering

Ground Hug Aronia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Ground Hug Aronia will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 3 feet apart. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is an amazingly adaptable plant, tolerating both dry conditions and even some standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species.

Ground Hug Aronia makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.



Ground Hug Aronia in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder