

Japanese Yew

Taxus cuspidata



Above: close up of the berries and needles

Right: the form and texture of *T. cuspidata* 'Nova'



Japanese Yew *Taxus cuspidata*

Family: Taxaceae

Stem & Leaf Type: evergreen shrub

Size: 3-30' tall and wide

USDA Hardiness Zones: 4

Leaves: 2-ranked needles on short stalks

Leaf Color: dark green above, yellowish green beneath

Fall Color: none

Flowers: inconspicuous

Fruit: solitary, red flesh, seed ovoid

Light: full sun-part shade

Moisture: well-drained

Insect/Disease Issues: none serious

Nativity: Eastern Asia

Location in the Gardens: South Patio, Walled Court

Culture & Landscape Value:

One of the best conifers for shady spots, but is not tolerant of wet soils. Tolerates pruning any time of year. In the wild, these plants grow as tall as 30'+, but most cultivated varieties stay 3-10'. Female plants produce berry-like fruits that are eaten by birds. The seeds are poisonous to humans. Susceptible to winter burn when planted in windy sites.

Notes:



Months of Interest:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec