Leikora Sea Buckthorn

Hippophae rhamnoides 'Leikora'



Leikora Sea Buckthorn fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Russian Sandthorn

Description:

This excellent large multi-stemmed color contrast shrub features fine silvery green foliage all season, producing edible orange berries in late summer and fall; extremely tolerant of dry, alkaline soils

Ornamental Features

Leikora Sea Buckthorn is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. It features an abundance of magnificent orange berries with yellow blush from late summer to mid winter. It has attractive grayish green foliage with hints of silver which emerges silver in spring. The narrow leaves are highly ornamental but do not develop any appreciable fall colour.

This plant is primarily grown as an ornamental, but it's also valued for its edible qualities. The oval tart berries are most often used in the following ways:

- Cooking
- Baking
- Preserves

Landscape Attributes

Leikora Sea Buckthorn is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering
- Spiny

Leikora Sea Buckthorn is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening

Planting & Growing

Leikora Sea Buckthorn will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more. This is a female variety of the species which requires a male selection of the same species growing nearby in order to set fruit.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to dry locations, and dislikes excessive moisture. It is particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for sandy, alkaline soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.