

# Ritchie

## FEED & SEED INC.



### Dragon Tree (shrub form)

*Dracaena draco* (shrub form)

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ●

Hardiness Zone: 8b

#### Description:

An interesting succulent plant that is often used as a houseplant; will grow quite large if planted outdoors in frost free areas; greenish white flowers in summer are followed by attractive orange berries; great for containers and rock gardens

#### Ornamental Features

Dragon Tree (shrub form) is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. It features an abundance of magnificent orange berries from late summer to early fall. It has attractive bluish-green evergreen foliage which emerges light green in spring. The succulent narrow leaves are highly ornamental and remain bluish-green throughout the winter.

#### Landscape Attributes

Dragon Tree (shrub form) is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading 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 is a relatively low maintenance shrub. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.



*Dragon Tree (shrub form)*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Dragon Tree (shrub form) fruit*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

#### Ottawa West

2079 Carp Road  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
K2S 1B9  
Telephone: +1 613 836 6880

#### Ottawa East

1390 Windmill Lane  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
K1B 4V5  
Toll Free: +1 800 267 1922  
Telephone: +1 613 741 4430

#### Brockville

3043 County Rd. 29  
Brockville, Ontario, Canada  
K6V 5T4  
Telephone: +1 613 341 9343

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Dragon Tree (shrub form) is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

### **Planting & Growing**

Dragon Tree (shrub form) will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 60 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America.

Dragon Tree (shrub form) makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. 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. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.

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