

SARATOGA HORTICULTURAL FOUNDATION, INC.

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MAHONIA NEVINII - Nevins Mahonia

A rare species of Mahonia, it is extinct in some of its native areas--now seen only in a small part of the San Fernando Valley.

The pinnate 6 centimeter leaves have 5 leaflets of blue-gray with a silver-gray underside. The rose colored new growth contrasts beautifully with this gray foliage and with the mass of yellow flower clusters that tip the stiff branches in early spring.

Most plants are 1 1/2 to 2 meters tall and as wide. The rigid, upright branches with short side branches yield a good background for lower drought tolerant companions.

The terminal 1/2 meter of each branch may look like an orange-red corn cob in September due to the mass of salmon-egg-like fruit.

Nevins Mahonia will tolerate extremely dry conditions or sprinkler watering, and sand or alkaline clay equally well without complaints. Annual fertilizing will encourage a lush, healthy appearance.

Mahonia looper is this Mahonia's most serious enemy, and even their attacks are not serious.

The gray, spiny foliage and dense habit of this plant make it an obvious choice for barrier hedges in dry areas, as well as forming a beautiful background for Ceanothus 'Concha' and Salvia clevelandii 'Aromas'.

Propagation is by seed which should be collected from the best looking individual seed parents in a planting. The fruit is cleaned of pulp immediately after collection and sown immediately or stored dry at 41°± until needed.

BDC
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