

THUJA SPP.

CUSTOMER CROP CULTURE GUIDE

TEMPERATURE	Excessive heat in combination with drought can stunt leader development.
LIGHT	Plants should be grown outdoors in full sun, except for some yellow/ variegated varieties which may require 30% shade.
CROP TIMING	Transplant in early spring to early summer, establishing roots before the summer heat sets in. Planting can also be done in later summer or early fall if roots are established before winter conditions set in.
MEDIA	Thuja must be grown in a media with adequate air porosity. A minimum of 40% coarse peat moss should be incorporated into the soil mix. Media pH must be kept between 5.0-6.0. A low rate of 8-9 month slow release fertilizer (18-6-12, for example) can be incorporated into the media.
IRRIGATION	Careful water management is important to ensure that the plants never dry out during the summer months. Drought stress will cause stunting of the growth and loss of plant vigour as well as causing shedding of the inner foliage and heavy cone set.
FERTILITY	Maintain an EC of 0.7 in the pot (using the 1:2 dilution method). This can be done with liquid feed, slow release fertilizer or a combination of the two. If plants are held over the winter, top dress with a low rate of Osmocote 18-6-12 in early spring and again in mid summer. Combine this application with a topdress of magnesium sulphate, 14 grams for a #2 nursery container and 7 grams for a #1 nursery container.
TRIM	Trimming depends on variety and end goal. Most upright Thuja spp. simply need the growing tips removed in the early spring.
SPACE	Ensure that plants always have adequate space so as not to be touching each other. The foliage needs air flow and light to maintain colour and shape.

PEST MANAGEMENT	Thuja spp. has no serious disease problems. Common insect pests include: spider mites, Lepidoptera, and aphids. Spider mite frequency can be reduced by irrigation systems such as overhead sprinklers that regularly wet plant foliage.
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PEST		CONTROL	ACTIVE INGREDIENT
Insect	Aphids	Endeavor *with a spreader-sticker	pymetrozine
	Lepidoptera	Dipel	<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> subsp. <i>kurstaki</i>
		Confirm	tebufenozide
	Spider mites	Floramite	bifenazate

The above information contains general guidelines and is not directed for specific regions or climates. Please get in touch with the Qualitree Grower Services team for further information if required.