

Tree Profile: *Forsythia*

General information: Forsythia is a genus of flowering deciduous plants in the family Oleaceae (olive family). There are about 11 species, mostly native to eastern Asia, but one native to southeastern Europe. The common name is also forsythia; the genus is named after William Forsyth. A highly underrated but very suitable plant for bonsai, all species are suitable. The attractions are the clusters of yellow buttercup flowers in spring before the leaves arrive.

Position: Full sun for good flush of flowers, tolerating partial shade, protect from hot northerly winds and strong frost.

Watering: Forsythias like water, especially in summer! Keep moist all the time.

Feeding: Twice a month during the growing season. Every two months if using a slow release organic fertiliser.

Repotting: Jung plants every year, older ones every second or third year in spring after flowering. Use standard free draining bonsai mix!

Pruning & Wiring: Prune back branches hard after flowering and continue to prune using clip and grow method until mid summer when the following spring's flower buds will be produced. Keep pinching new shoots back to two leaves which will help with the ramification! Heavy structural pruning best done in late autumn and wiring in winter!



Styles: Informal Upright, Slanting, Cascade, Semi-cascade, Root-over-rock and Clump. **Any size!**

Propagation: Softwood cuttings in late spring or early summer, air-layering in spring or summer.

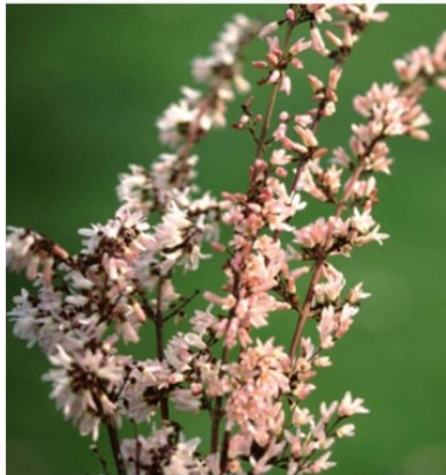
Pests and diseases: Aphids, caterpillars and Forsythia gall.

Rare species for Bonsai:

- The Weeping Forsythia.
- Arnold Forsythia Dwarf - for dense foliage
- The very rare pink Forsythia.

CAUTION!!!

This plant is considered poisonous!



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