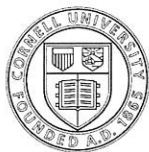


HOME GROUNDS FACT SHEET



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Nassau County



Nassau County
Horticulture Program
East Meadow Farm
832 Merrick Avenue
East Meadow, NY 11554
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Schefflera, Umbrella Tree

Botanical name *Brassaia actinophylla*. Attractive, fast-growing foliage plant with large, dark green whorls of compound leaves arranged in umbrella-like rosettes at the end of thin branches. Grows to be a tree suitable as a tub plant, or may be pruned and maintained at a relatively low size.

Culture:

All-purpose soil mix. Indirect bright light. Allow soil surface to dry between waterings. Warm temperatures (60°-75°F.). Fertilize once a month from spring to fall.



Schefflera arboricola, Dwarf Umbrella Tree. Attractive, slow-growing foliage plant with smaller shiny green whorls of compound leaves than the well-known *Schefflera*. Ideal for use in tubs or container. Care for this dwarf plant is the same as the *Schefflera*. No need for pruning as this plant is naturally dwarf.

Propagation:

- (a) Air-layer stem
- (b) Stem cuttings
- (c) Pot up individual suckers that cluster around main stem.

(refer to Home Grounds Fact Sheet A-1-30.)

Problems:

- **New and developing foliage is small and thin:** Most frequently due to low light intensity, but can be caused by root injury.
- **Portions of lower leaflets yellowish-green or yellow:** Most frequently due to low light intensity; often most severe on portion of plant farthest from light source.
- **Plant wilts even when soil is moist:** Roots not functioning properly usually due to overwatering.
- **Galls on roots, 1/16 to 1/8 in. diameter, observed when plant is removed from pot:** Root-knot nematode. Discard plant.
- **Round tortoise-like insects on stems and leaves, frequently accompanied by a black sooty mold:** Scale insects.
- **Foliage grayish-green and stippled:** Spider mites. Most severe when temperatures are high. Can be observed on under-surface of leaves with a reading glass.
- **Whitish waxy material on stems and leaves, most frequently found where stems and leaves join:** mealybugs.

Problem and/or Insect Diagnosis:

Bring a sample to your local Cornell Cooperative Extension Office so proper control methods can be given.

A-1-26 DWM:re reviewed RT 5/00

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