Foxtail Fern



Asparagus densiflorus

One of the most reliable additions to any garden is the Foxtail Fern. This tough-as-nails plant makes a great filler in containers and adds movement to the landscape. These versatile plants will become a textural favorite in any garden!

Characteristics:

Dimensions: 2-3' X 3-4'

Growth Habit: Multi-stem and upright

Foliage: Needle-like leaves cover upright stems

Blooms: Plants will produce small white flowers and red berries. While they are inedible to humans, these berries are great for bird forage!

Hardiness: Hardy in zones 9-11. Protect new plantings from frost. Even if the top sustains damage, roots are generally hardy down to 20-25 degrees F.

Toxicity: Considered toxic to pets. The sap can cause skin irritation to humans.

Care Requirements:

Light: Prefers part sun. In full sun, plants will be a much lighter color.

Water: Keep your plant moist- but not waterlogged- in the warmer months. Over the winter, water only a few times to keep the roots healthy. Consider mulching your plantings to conserve water- but make sure to allow them to dry after long periods of rain. Once established, these ferns are tolerant of short periods of drought- but still prefer regular watering.

Soil: Prefers relatively fertile and freely draining soil. Mix some bagged garden soil with the native soil when you plant. If you're planting in the garden, amend native soil with a bagged Organic Garden Soil.

Fertilizer: Fertilize your fern regularly during the growing season. Fertilizers like Fish Emulsion and Fox Farm's Grow Big will give your planting the pep it needs. Lack of fertilization will result in the needle-like leaves beginning to yellow and drop.

Pruning: Pinch back as needed to maintain shape and height. In spring, it is okay to cut back whole plant to rejuvenate growth.

Uses:

- Deer resistant border shrub
- Great for borders or large pots
- Suitable as a part sun house or patio plant

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