



## *Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Crippsii' 'Cripps Golden' Hinoki Falsecypress<sup>1</sup>

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### INTRODUCTION

This broad, sweeping, conical-shaped evergreen has graceful, flattened, fern-like branchlets which gently droop at branch tips (Fig. 1). Beautiful, shiny, new, golden/yellow foliage matures to green throughout the interior of the tree but some random yellow highlights are still obvious in clustered sprays at branch ends, giving the trees a wonderful two-toned effect. Cripp's Golden Hinoki Falsecypress reaches 50 to 75 feet in height with a spread of 20 to 30 feet, and has attractive, shredding, reddish-brown bark which peels off in long narrow strips.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Scientific name:** *Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Crippsii'

**Pronunciation:** kam-eh-SIP-uh-riss ob-TOO-suh

**Common name(s):** 'Cripps Golden' Hinoki Falsecypress

**Family:** Cupressaceae

**USDA hardiness zones:** 4 through 8A (Fig. 2)

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Uses:** Bonsai; screen; specimen

**Availability:** somewhat available, may have to go out of the region to find the tree

### DESCRIPTION

**Height:** 50 to 75 feet

**Spread:** 20 to 30 feet

**Crown uniformity:** symmetrical canopy with a regular (or smooth) outline, and individuals have more or less identical crown forms

**Crown shape:** spreading; pyramidal



Figure 1. Middle-aged 'Cripps Golden' Hinoki Falsecypress.

**Crown density:** dense

**Growth rate:** medium

**Texture:** fine

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

### Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** opposite/subopposite

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire

**Leaf shape:** scale-like

**Leaf venation:** none, or difficult to see

**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen

**Leaf blade length:** less than 2 inches

**Leaf color:** yellow

**Fall color:** no fall color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

### Flower

**Flower color:** yellow

**Flower characteristics:** inconspicuous and not showy

### Fruit

**Fruit shape:** round

**Fruit length:** < .5 inch

**Fruit covering:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** brown

**Fruit characteristics:** does not attract wildlife; inconspicuous and not showy; no significant litter problem

### Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** droop as the tree grows, and will require pruning for vehicular or pedestrian clearance beneath the canopy; showy trunk; should be grown with a single leader; no thorns

**Pruning requirement:** needs little pruning to develop a strong structure

**Breakage:** resistant

**Current year twig color:** brown; green

**Current year twig thickness:** thin

### Culture

**Light requirement:** tree grows in part shade/part sun; tree grows in full sun

**Soil tolerances:** clay; loam; sand; acidic; well-drained

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

## **Other**

**Roots:** surface roots are usually not a problem

**Winter interest:** no special winter interest

**Outstanding tree:** not particularly outstanding

**Invasive potential:** little, if any, potential at this time

**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** not known to be susceptible

**Pest resistance:** no pests are normally seen on the tree

## **USE AND MANAGEMENT**

Cripp's Golden Hinoki Falsecypress should be grown in part sun in the south on moist, well-drained soil, in areas of moderate to high humidity, and preferably where the trees can be protected from harsh winds. Somewhat picky and probably more of a novelty than a staple landscape plant. Coloration is not as pronounced when grown in partial shade.

Propagation is by cuttings.

## **Pests and Diseases**

No pests or diseases are of major concern.