



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

TALL NATIVE SUMAC CARE

LIGHT

Smooth, staghorn, and winged sumacs (*Rhus glabra*, *R. typhina*, and *R. copallinum*) grow in sun to partial shade. Give these large shrubs or small trees a generous naturalistic space. Their spreading habit suits banks and broad borders better than a narrow foundation bed.

WATER

Water deeply after planting and keep the root ball evenly moist while roots establish. Check the surrounding soil as well as the original nursery root ball. Once established, reduce watering frequency, but provide a slow soaking during prolonged dry weather rather than frequent shallow sprinkling.

SOIL & PLANTING

Choose well-drained soil rather than a persistently wet spot. These sumacs tolerate a range of ordinary and poor soils once established. Plant at the original nursery depth and mulch lightly, leaving trunks clear. Keep room around the colony for inspecting and removing unwanted shoots.

FEEDING

Routine heavy feeding is unnecessary. If growth is weak, check moisture, drainage, and light before applying fertilizer. Use a soil test to guide any needed nutrients and follow the product label. Avoid excessive nitrogen that promotes more growth than the planting space can accommodate.

SEASONAL CARE

Preserve the natural framework and remove dead, damaged, or crossing branches selectively. Thin unwanted suckers at the base instead of shearing the whole canopy. Heavy renewal cutting is an option for an overgrown shrub, but it sacrifices its existing structure and is not routine care for a tree form.

HELPFUL TIPS

Roots can produce vigorous shoots beyond the original plant. Inspect the colony's edges regularly and remove unwanted growth promptly. Red fruit clusters depend on compatible pollination and female flowering plants. Autumn color and winter leaf loss are normal. Golden-leaved Tiger Eyes has its own guide.