



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

JAPANESE PIERIS CARE

LIGHT

Japanese pieris (*Pieris japonica* and related landscape hybrids) suits sun to partial shade, with shelter from drying winter winds. Morning sun and afternoon protection are useful in exposed gardens. Choose a cultivar hardy enough for the site and allow its labeled mature width.

WATER

Water thoroughly after planting and check the original root ball regularly while roots establish. Maintain moderate, consistent moisture through drought and into fall. Roots must also drain freely. Repeatedly adding water to saturated soil can worsen root problems rather than relieve wilt.

SOIL & PLANTING

Plant at nursery depth in acidic, organic, well-drained soil. Avoid low spots that remain wet. Mulch around the roots to conserve moisture, keeping the stem bases uncovered. Give foliage and branches room for air circulation rather than crowding plants against a wall.

FEEDING

Use a soil test before applying lime, sulfur or other pH amendments. If feeding is needed, use a modest spring fertilizer for acid-loving shrubs at the labeled rate. Yellow leaves can reflect unsuitable pH, water stress or root damage; diagnose the cause first.

SEASONAL CARE

Spring flowers form on older growth. Shape lightly after flowering and remove damaged or crossing stems selectively. Avoid late-season shearing that removes future flower buds. Protect new shoots from late frost when practical; wait to assess injury before making major cuts.

HELPFUL TIPS

Inspect pale or stippled leaves for lace bugs, including the leaf undersides. Watch for root rot in wet sites. Plant parts are poisonous if eaten. Bog rosemary, also called andromeda, is a different shrub; it has its own guide.