

Lauralee Dwarf Pittosporum (*Pittosporum tobira*)

Pittosporum tobira, commonly known as Japanese pittosporum, is a rounded, broadleaved evergreen shrub or small tree that is native to Japan, Korea and China. It is also sometimes commonly called mock orange or Austrian laurel. In the U.S., it is commonly grown in Florida, along the Gulf Coast and on the West coast. Plants typically grow as dense shrubs to 10-15' tall, but may be kept smaller by pruning. Laura Lee is a dwarf variety which grows to 3 to 4 feet tall and 3 to 4 feet wide. The variegated leaves are attractive year-round, and clusters of tiny white flowers appear in the spring.



Plant Care: Pittosporum grow in full sun or mostly shade or anything in between. Once established, they tolerate dry spells, but do not forget to water them during an extended drought.

Watering: During the first year give your shrubs plenty of water. Watering from a hose or sprinkler should be done slowly and deeply, not frequently, to avoid shallow root development or root diseases. Allow soil to dry several inches deep before irrigating again. After the first year, they'll need less water.

Fertilizing: Pittosporum does not require regular fertilization.

References:

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org>

<http://www.learn2grow.com>