

# *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. 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*

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

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

**Family:** Cupressaceae

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

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Invasive potential:** little invasive potential

**Uses:** screen; Bonsai; 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

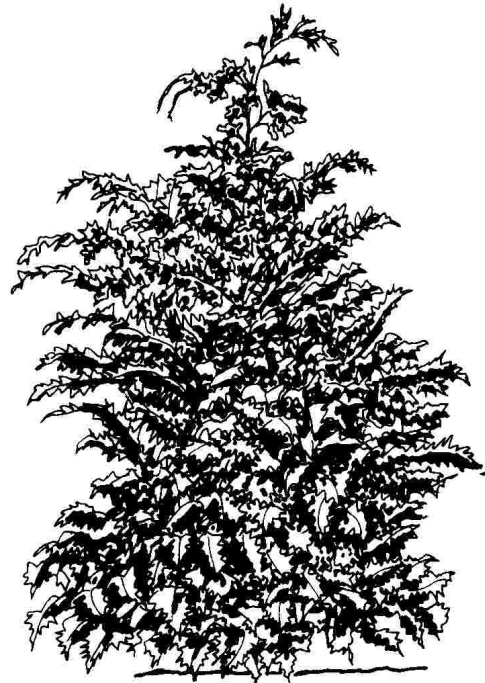


Figure 1. Middle-aged *Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Crippsii': 'Cripps Golden' Hinoki Falsecypress

**Crown shape:** spreading, pyramidal

**Crown density:** dense

**Growth rate:** moderate

**Texture:** fine

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Figure 2. Range

## Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** opposite/subopposite (Fig. 3)

**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 color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

## Flower

**Flower color:** yellow

**Flower characteristics:** not showy

## Fruit

**Fruit shape:** round, cone

**Fruit length:** less than .5 inch

**Fruit covering:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** brown

**Fruit characteristics:** does not attract wildlife; not showy; fruit/leaves not a litter problem

## Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** branches droop; showy; typically one trunk; thorns

**Pruning requirement:** little required

**Breakage:** resistant

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

**Current year twig thickness:** thin

**Wood specific gravity:** unknown

## Culture

**Light requirement:** full sun, partial sun or partial shade

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

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Aerosol salt tolerance:** unknown

## Other

**Roots:** not a problem

**Winter interest:** no

**Outstanding tree:** no

**Ozone sensitivity:** unknown

**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** resistant

**Pest resistance:** free of serious pests and diseases

## 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.