**Introduction**

This broad, sweeping, conical-shaped evergreen has graceful, flattened, fern-like branchlets that 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. Cripps 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 that 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

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**Description**
Height: 50 to 75 feet  
Spread: 20 to 30 feet  
Crown uniformity: symmetrical  
Crown shape: spreading, pyramidal  
Crown density: dense  
Growth rate: moderate  
Texture: fine

**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 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**
Cripps golden hinoki falsecypress should be grown in partial 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.