

Garden Notes

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'Florida Sunshine'

The cultivar of the native Yellow anise, *Illicium parviflorum*, is appropriately named. Leaves are a bright chartreuse yellow becoming a littler paler in the cooler months. The red stems also contrast well with the foliage and become more intense in the winter.

This cultivar will be smaller than the species, growing about 8-10 feet in height with multiple branches. Like the original, flowers are small and often hidden amongst the foliage. Leaves still have the nice anise fragrance. It is not edible. This plant likes a little shade in our summer season. It grows best with some water when conditions are dry.

Winter Watering

Now is the time to change the irrigation frequency for the cooler months. Warm season grasses are going through dormancy and will not require routine irrigation. Most established plants will be fine with rainfall. New plants, annuals, and vegetables will need attention so check the soil for water needs.



Garden Protection

Even though our winters are mild, the occasional freeze can injure some young vegetable plants. Be prepared with some mulch or a cover to throw over your garden when our temps drop. Many vegetables will recover, but they may be set back a little.



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