The Dwarf Japanese Juniper is a dwarf, evergreen, matting shrub. This plant needs full sun and open space. It is soil tolerant, thrives under adversity and is easily transplanted. Once established this plant is drought and salt tolerant. New growth for this Juniper is a bright green and as it matures it turns to a blue green. In the winter it takes on a purple tint. Use this shrub on slopes or uneven ground and it is excellent for erosion control. It can be trained like a bonsai for small topiary purposes.

**Type:** spreading groundcover shrub

**USDA hardiness zones:** 4a through 9a

**Uses:** border; mass planting; ground cover; edging

**Origin:** not native to Florida

**Height:** 1 foot  
**Spread:** 3 to 4 feet

**Plant spacing:** 4 to 6 feet

**Light requirement:** plant requires full sun

**Soil tolerances:** acidic; sand; loam; clay; shallow rocky

**Drought tolerance:** high

**Soil salt tolerances:** high

**Invasive potential:** not known to be invasive

Photo: Jim Robbins, NC State Extension

Published July 2022: Larry Busbee, MGV, Frances Andrews, MGV, and Josh Criss, UF/IFAS Extension, Santa Rosa County  
Santa Rosa County Cooperative Extension, 6263 Dogwood Dr., Milton, FL 32570  850-623-3868