

HOME GROUNDS FACT SHEET

CORNELL

Cooperative Extension
Nassau County



Nassau County
Horticulture Program
Eisenhower Park
East Meadow, NY 11554
516 228-0426

Schefflera, Umbrella Tree

Botanical name *Brassaia actinophylla*. Attractive, fast-growing foliage plant with large, dark green whorls of compound leaves arranged in umbrella-like rosettes at the end of thin branches. Grows to be a tree suitable as a tub plant, or may be pruned and maintained at a relatively low size.

Culture:

All-purpose soil mix. Indirect bright light. Allow soil surface to dry between waterings. Warm temperatures (60°-75°F.). Fertilize once a month from spring to fall.



naturally dwarf.

Schefflera arboricola, Dwarf Umbrella Tree. Attractive, slow-growing foliage plant with smaller shiny green whorls of compound leaves than the well-known *Schefflera*. Ideal for use in tubs or container. Care for this dwarf plant is the same as the *Schefflera*. No need for pruning as this plant is

Propagation:

- Air-layer stem
- Stem cuttings
- Pot up individual suckers that cluster around main stem.

(refer to *Home Grounds Fact Sheet A-1-30.*)

Problems:

- **New and developing foliage is small and thin:** Most frequently due to low light intensity, but can be caused by root injury.
- **Portions of lower leaflets yellowish-green or yellow:** Most frequently due to low light intensity; often most severe on portion of plant farthest from light source.
- **Plant wilts even when soil is moist:** Roots not functioning properly usually due to overwatering.
- **Galls on roots, 1/16 to 1/8 in. diameter, observed when plant is removed from pot:** Root-knot nematode. Discard plant.
- **Round tortoise-like insects on stems and leaves, frequently accompanied by a black sooty mold:** Scale insects.
- **Foliage grayish-green and stippled:** Spider mites. Most severe when temperatures are high. Can be observed on under-surface of leaves with a reading glass.
- **Whitish waxy material on stems and leaves, most frequently found where stems and leaves join:** mealybugs.

Problem and/or Insect Diagnosis:

Bring a sample to your local Cornell Cooperative Extension Office so proper control methods can be given.

A-1-26 DWM:re reviewed RT 5/00

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities. NYS College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, NYS College of Human Ecology, and NYS College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University, Cooperative Extension associations, county governing bodies, and U.S. Department of Agriculture, cooperating.