

# Narhira Fernleaf Mahonia/ Grape Holly



The fine attributes don't end with the flowers. To us, the flowers are just an extra-added bonus. Small blue berries follow the bloom that are enjoyed by birds. But what's most attractive to us year-round in the landscape is the elongated, fern-like, deep green leaves that provide a beautiful soft texture and tropical look in the garden that contrasts well with most other plants nearby.



## *Mahonia eurybracteata* 'Narihira'

- **Use:** This selection has the same "soft" foliage as the species. It has a slight bluish sheen to its foliage and flowers in the fall with 6-8" spikes of yellow flowers which gives the effect of a spray of fireworks. These are followed by small blue berries in late winter and early spring. This is a larger version of 'Soft Caress'<sup>™</sup> which can reach 4', but is easily kept smaller. When we dropped to single digits, we had no burning on its leaves as we experienced with 'Soft Caress'<sup>®</sup>.
- **Exposure/Soil:** It grows best in morning sun and afternoon shade or filtered sun. Moist, well-drained soil, but not soggy. Use slow release fertilizer two times a year. Water regularly, when top 3 in. of soil is dry.
- **Growth:** Moderate-growing to 3 ft. high, 3 to 4 ft. wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 7b-9; shrub Keep in a protected area near the home.
- **Foliage:** Evergreen. The olive-green foliage of this shrub is elongated and widely-spaced, a threadleaf effect that works quite well against both flowers and berries
- **Flower:** From mid-fall through mid-winter, the foliage is topped by citron-yellow blooms held upright in clusters of "candles." Lightly fragrant and very long-lasting, they give the shrub an entirely new look. They are followed by large clusters of silver-sheened blue berries, also quite long-lasting on the plant. It is an excellent choice for the foundation (being evergreen), as well as for the border or even large containers.