



Christensen's "LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS"

CPC purchasers look far and wide for what's new or different for the landscape. Two such seemingly prehistoric, yet meta-extraterrestrial plants have joined our regular family of offerings. Both of these conifers have odd, plasticized foliage that has been found in ancient fossils, but would also look great in Jane Jetson's living room. For the purpose of this article they will be called Audrey III and Audrey IV.



Audrey III is also known as Koyamaki (Sciadopitys: Gk. "Pine that casts a shadow;" Lat. verticillata: "with whorls"). First introduced by the Englishman John Veitch this relative-less conifer, the Japanese Umbrella Pine, sports no needles but rather cladodes or flattened stem extensions which do the work of leaves and needles. These form the umbrella-like shape

for which it is known. Koyamaki was discovered near Hondo in Southern Japan, but amber from its resin exists in the coal mines of England and Germany.



Audrey IV, another coniferous orphan, is Inugaya, (Cephalotaxus harringtonia 'Fastigiata.' The Upright Japanese Plum Yew is a "head" yew, or perhaps the most superior yew. This was brought to England from the Kyushu region of Japan by E. Wilson, an employee of J. Veitch & Sons, working directly with Harry Veitch (ergo, 'harringtonia'). Although slow-growing this develops into a beautiful specimen.

Unusual plants were big business then just as they are today. Armies of plant hunters of the past have been replaced by scores of worldwide hybridizers. What will be our next big seller, a "horror" or a "beauty?"

Suddenly (I) see more something that's green!

JG - Plant Guy



Jeff Good

Christensen's Plant Center
6282 Gotfredson Road
Plymouth, Michigan 48170
(734) 454-1400 voice
(734) 454-1414 fax

[**Return To Archive**](#)

