



CHRISTENSEN'S PLANT CENTER

Wholesale Supplier To Landscape Professionals

Out Of Stock? What Am I Going To Do?!?

So here we are in September, and it has been an absolute madhouse for everyone in the industry. The home stretch is beginning to peek over the horizon, and fortunately for us here at CPC, we still have a full bottle of Motrin in the cabinet to help us get to the finish line! I have joked around saying that if, within the next couple months, I should happen to pass a kidney stone, there will be a big "M" on the front of it. But that could also come from all the Monster drinks that I consume in a day too... Maybe it would come out M&M's?



Acer rubrum 'Jeffersred'
Autumn Blaze® Red Maple

Anyway, with September comes the issue of availability, as it does every year. Yes, we do get slightly reloaded on trees in October, but most of the ornamentals that we all know and love are not readily available due to these being classified as fall digging hazards, such as Dogwoods and Magnolias to name a couple of examples. What we try to do is fill as much of your order as possible, not just try and sell you items that we have an overabundance of. I'll use Red Sunset® Maple as the first example. Say we run out of 3", and we can't source any more until spring. Instead of waiting six months, we would suggest a Redpointe® an Autumn Blaze®, or an Autumn Flame®. Same seasonal color, same overall effect for the most part.

Other times, we have to stretch things a bit. Let's say, for example, that you are looking for the elusive 'Thundercloud' Plum. Unfortunately, these are not a fall dig item, and will prove to be a VERY difficult find. However, we could offer a different plum or cherry, like a 'Schubert' or 'Vesuvius'. Yes, they're a little different, but these can also give you a similar effect to the design. And then there's other stretches, like substituting a dwarf tree with a completely, outside-the-box dwarf tree. An example of this may be substituting a treeform Hydrangea with a treeform Ninebark. We'll throw every possible suggestion that we can think of at you, but don't forget that you know your customer much better than we do.

With all that being said, just remember that we have less than 3 months to go. There will be mum month, bulb month, deer camp month, and then most of us will be pushing snow around in circles again. Be safe out there!



Dave Reutter

Christensen's Plant Center
6282 Gotfredson Road
Plymouth, Michigan 48170

(734) 454-1400 voice

(734) 454-1414 fax

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Pysocarpus
opulifolius 'Monlo'
Diabolo® Ninebark