



Styrax japonicus 'Spring Showers'



Botanical Name: *Styrax japonicus* 'Spring Showers'
(NA 71587; PI 660970)

Hardiness: USDA Zones 5-8.

Development: 'Spring Showers' was selected from an open-pollinated seedling population in 2000. It was released in 2011.

Significance: 'Spring Showers' is the first Japanese snowbell cultivar released from the U.S. National Arboretum's landscape plant breeding program in McMinnville, Tenn. Its delayed bud break allows it to be successfully grown in areas frequently subject to late spring freezes.

Description: **Height and width:** 12 feet tall and 8 feet wide at 10 years.
Habit: Small tree with tight conical habit.
Foliage: Lustrous dark green in summer; light yellow in fall. Emerges two to three weeks later than most standard cultivars.
Flowers: In late spring, 'Spring Showers' is covered with 3/4 inch diameter fragrant, white flowers that are suspended below the foliage.

Propagation: Softwood cuttings root in 4 weeks under mist with 3000 ppm IBA.

Landscape Use: Specimen plant or in a mixed border.

Availability: For a list of wholesale nurseries propagating this plant, contact Dr. Sandra Reed, U.S. National Arboretum, 472 Cadillac Lane, McMinnville, TN 37110, Sandra.Reed@ars.usda.gov