



# HUNNIFORD GARDENS

Inspiring Northern Gardeners Since 1985



## Little Spark® Spirea

*Spiraea japonica* 'MINSPIL04'

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 3

### Description:

This compact variety has orange new growth that matures to yellow in summer, with shades of pink in fall; showy pink flower clusters in early summer; deadhead for re-blooming; very attractive in groupings; needs full sun and well-drained soil

### Ornamental Features

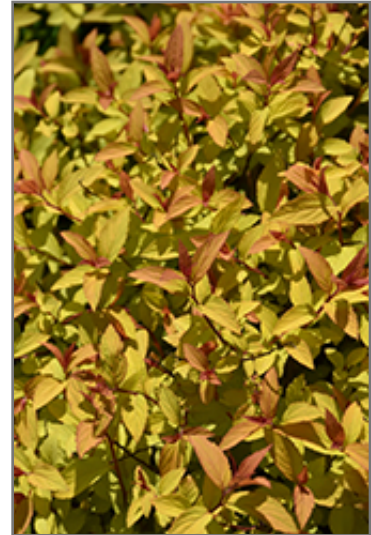
Little Spark Spirea features showy clusters of pink flowers at the ends of the branches from early to late summer. It has gold-variegated yellow foliage with hints of chartreuse which emerges orange in spring. The serrated pointy leaves turn outstanding shades of buttery yellow and pink in the fall.

### Landscape Attributes

Little Spark Spirea is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Little Spark Spirea is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Little Spark Spirea foliage*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Little Spark Spirea foliage*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use

## **Planting & Growing**

Little Spark Spirea will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. To help this plant achieve its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.