

Groundpine

Lycopodium dendroideum Michaux



Groundpine, also known as princess pine, is a beautiful small evergreen plant, native to eastern North America. It does not grow so densely as other clubmosses, and each plant looks like a small evergreen tree. It typically grows 4 to 7 inches tall. Also cited as *Dendrolycopodium dendroideum* (Michx.) A. Haines. This species is hardy at least to northern zone 4.

This plant, a member of the primitive, spore-bearing lycophyte group (there are three groups of higher plants: seed plants, ferns and fern allies, and lycophytes), has a distinct preference for sandy soil, and likes a somewhat acid pH.

To grow spore:

Clubmosses have brown, subterranean gametophytes which look nothing like fern gametophytes. I recommend direct-sowing these outside where you want them to grow. The gametophytes may live underground for several years before sprouting out into the new plant.

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