

# SNOWBUSH (*Breynia disticha*)

## Summary

The Snowbush, also called Snow on the Mountain, is a beautiful tree that has great leaf size and wonderful color, which depending on the lighting, changes. For example, when the Snowbush is in moderate light, the leaves grow larger and have white coloring in them. However, when the Snowbush is grown in full sun, the leaves are actually smaller, creating a denser type of bonsai, and coloring of pine and white. It is a slow grower.

Originating from the Pacific Islands, this tree comes from the Euphorbiaceae family. As a tropical tree, the Snowbush can easily grow up to six feet in the wild. However, when properly trained, this tree makes an excellent bonsai. The bloom colors are commonly white, ivory, or pink although you will also see pale and medium green, which appear in the mid winter months. The foliage of the Snowbush is a silver/gray color, which is beautiful.

This particular tree requires average water on a regular basis. However, you want to be careful not to water too much. For the soil, you want good quality that has a pH level between 7.6 and 7.8, which is mildly alkaline.

While you can use a number of different bonsai styles of the Snowbush, anything upright is ideal. To ensure you get the most of out the Snowbush's color, you want to be sure to provide adequate humidity, which can be achieved by using a humidity tray. Typically, the Snowbush is very hardy and healthy but unfortunately, they are prone to aphids, spider mites and the white fly. Therefore, you would need to use organic pesticide to control the problem.