

Salix caprea hybrid 'S365'



The State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) presents 'S365', a pussy willow variety of shrub willow. 'S365' is a hybrid variety that is disease resistant, produces multiple small stems, and is well suited for streambank restoration, riparian buffers privacy hedges and in ornamental plantings.



Photo by Benjamin Ballard



Photo by Kimberly Cameron



Photo by Benjamin Ballard

Salix caprea hybrid 'S365'



Photo by Kim Cameron

Botanical Name: *Salix caprea* hybrid 'S365'
(Family: Salicaceae)

Hardiness: U.S.D.A. Zones 4 - 6

Origins: 'S365' is a triploid hybrid variety obtained from the University of Toronto as part of a research project to develop new willow cultivars that generate high biomass yields on a variety of sites, display resistance to diseases and pests, and possess agronomic traits suitable for mechanical planting, harvesting, and post-harvest processing. Its identity is in question, but is most likely *S. caprea* × *S. cinerea*.

Significance: 'S365' is a shrub willow cultivar displaying rapid growth, annually producing 2-4 dry tons of woody biomass per acre in yield trials, and displays low incidence of rust disease or damage by sawfly. Woody stems can be harvested every three to four years, and new shoots will re-sprout the following season. Repeated harvesting of shrub willow plantations can be sustained for at least 15 years. This variety produces abundant attractive flower stems for arrangements or decoration.

Description:

Height and Width: 10-15 feet tall, 3-5 foot crown spread at 3 years when grown at 2 x 3 foot spacing.

Habit: Fast-growing, deciduous shrub with multiple small-diameter, vertical stems.

Foliage: Dark green oblong leaves, typically 2-3 inches long, 1-1.5 inches wide, with foliage April through October in Zone 5.

Bark: Brown when young, turning green and smooth with age; yellow-orange buds in winter.

Flowers: Male-sterile, early spring.

Seeds: No seeds produced.

Culture: Adaptable to a wide range of soil and moisture conditions. Prefers maximum sunlight.

Propagation: Roots easily from dormant stem cuttings.

Uses: Excellent for streambank restoration, riparian buffers, privacy hedges, and in ornamental plantings.

Availability: Available from Double A Willow (www.doubleawillow.com) beginning Spring 2007.

For information on the SUNY-ESF Willow Biomass Program go to www.esf.edu/willow.

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