Salix sachalinensis × S. miyabeana ‘Canastota’

The State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) presents ‘Canastota’ shrub willow from their willow breeding program. ‘Canastota’ is a high-yielding shrub willow that is disease resistant, produces multiple small stems, and is aesthetically appealing. It is well suited for biomass plantings, privacy hedges, snowfences, and ornamental plantings.
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Botanical Name:  *Salix sachalinensis* × *S. miyabeana* ‘Canastota’  
(Family: Salicaceae)  U.S. Plant Patent 17,724  
issued May 15, 2007

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

Development:  ‘Canastota’ was produced through controlled willow breeding in 1999 as part of a research project to produce 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. ‘Canastota’ was produced by crossing *Salix sachalinensis* ‘SX61’ with *S. miyabeana* ‘SX64’.

Significance:  ‘Canastota’ is a shrub willow cultivar displaying exceptionally rapid growth, producing greater than 15% more woody biomass than its parent (‘SX61’) in a selection trial, with low incidence of rust disease or damage by beetle or 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.

Description:
Height and Width:  15-20 feet tall, 3-5 foot crown spread at 3 years when grown at 2 x 3 foot spacing.
Habit:  Fast-growing, upright, deciduous shrub with multiple small-diameter, vertical stems.
Foliage:  Green oblong leaves, typically 3.5-5 inches long, 0.5-1 inches wide, with foliage April through October in Zone 5.
Bark:  Grey-orange when young, turning yellow-green with slightly cracked bark with age; dark red dormant buds in winter.
Flowers:  Male, 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 bioenergy plantations, living snowfences, privacy hedges, and ornamental plantings.


For information on the SUNY-ESF Willow Biomass Program go to [www.esf.edu/willow](http://www.esf.edu/willow).

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