

**Hesse Cotoneaster**

*Cotoneaster 'Hessei'*

A hardy, disease-resistant, hybrid cultivar of a popular ground cover shrub.

Plant Introduction Program...  
Bringing Better Plants to the Landscape



PHOTOS: © 2000 DON W. BRENNAN



# Hesse Cotoneaster

## *Cotoneaster* 'Hessei'

A hardy, disease-resistant, hybrid cultivar of a popular ground cover shrub.

---

### Botanical Name

*Cotoneaster* 'Hessei'

### Family

Rosaceae

### Common Name

Hesse Cotoneaster

### Origin

A cultivar of uncertain parental origin (probably *C. horizontalis* x *C. adpressus* var. *praecox*) developed by H.A. Hesse of Weener, Germany, in the 1930s. The plant was introduced to the Chicagoland area by The Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois, in the 1950s. *Cotoneaster* 'Hessei' is a recommended cultivar being promoted by Chicagoland Grows®.

### Hardiness

U.S.D.A. Zone 4

### Growth Rate

Slow to medium

### General Description

Deciduous shrub 12" to 18" tall with irregularly bowed branches that root at the soil line. Foliage is dark, glossy green throughout the growing season, turning rich burgundy in fall. Single, reddish-pink flowers appear in spring, followed by bright red fruits that often persist into early winter.

### Culture

Best transplanted from a container. Prefers moist, well-drained soils but adapts easily to a broad spectrum of soil types. Not tolerant of extremely wet conditions. Ideal exposures are full sun or light shade.

### Pest and Disease Resistance

Has shown excellent resistance to spider mite and fireblight in field trials.

### Landscape Value

Excellent in the shrub border, for massing as a ground cover, or as an accent plant around retaining walls or in the rock garden. Diminutive habit and delicate texture make this cultivar especially useful in small garden areas.

### Propagation

Best from softwood cuttings taken in late June to mid-July, 3" to 4" in length and treated with 2500 P.P.M. IBA. Cuttings should be started in 50/50 peat-perlite mix or sandbeds, and placed under mist. Rooting occurs in 8-12 weeks.

### Sales Potential

Excellent as a one- or two-gallon container plant from early spring through fall. Hardiness as well as disease and pest resistance make this cultivar one of the finest shrub/ground cover plants for Midwest landscapes.

---

Chicagoland Grows® is a nonprofit corporation of the Chicago Botanic Garden, The Morton Arboretum and the Ornamental Growers Association of Northern Illinois (OGA).

The Chicagoland Grows® Plant Introduction Program is dedicated to the evaluation, selection, production and marketing of recommended and new plant cultivars. Plants selected for the program have proven to be adaptable to the Midwest and are made available to the commercial and retail landscape industry through an international network of growers and propagators.



For more information, please contact Chicagoland Grows®, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, IL 60022 (847) 835-8301

