



Comproasma 'Rainbow Surprise'

Coprosma repens

03-28



<u>Hardiness</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Height</u>
Zones 14-24, H1	Full sun or partial shade	Grows in wide range of soils	Little to regular watering	Female plants bear attractive small fruit when male is around to pollinate	Rapid growth to 10 feet

Year round foliage display on a tidy evergreen plant. Summer leaves are emerald green variegated with cream accented in pink. Fall brightens to magenta and bold red with olive in winter. Shiny thick leaves are wind resistant for lower hedges beds and borders. Best pruned in cool season. Prefers well drained soils. Evergreen. Full sun, shaded in afternoon. Moderate growth to 5 feet tall and about as wide. Design Ideas Good focal point with multi season interest in short range compositions. Use in shrub or mixed borders to provide structure against large leaf exotics or tropicals. Fine foundation plant for year around coverage of crawl spaces, meters and vents. Well sized for framing art or fountains with a nest of attractive foliage. Plant as an informal hedge or barrier to separate spaces.

This genus of shiny leaf shrubs hails includes about 60 species scattered across the South Pacific in Australia, New Zealand, and Borneo. The genus was classified by the German, Johann Reinhold Forster in the late 18th century. It was derived from the Greek for a fetid odor, the chief distinguishing feature of some species. One of the most famous collectors of *Coprosma* species was I. Bauer, who traveled New Zealand in 1804-1805. This species, *C. repens* hails from North island of New Zealand where its short stature is well adapted to sand dune habitats where it must keep out of the desiccating coastal winds.