

Baby's Breath Spirea (*Spirea thunbergii* 'Ogon')

Thunberg spirea, baby's breath spirea or breath of spring, is a dense, twiggy, upright deciduous shrub with wiry, outward-arching branching. It typically grows 3-5 feet tall and as wide, often becoming somewhat open and leggy over time. It is particularly noted for its early spring bloom (April before the leaves emerge) of tiny white flowers (each to 1/3" diameter) in 3- to 5-flowered clusters. Narrow, linear spear-shaped, sparsely toothed pale green leaves (to 1.5" long and to 1/4" wide) have a willow-like appearance. Leaves turn an undistinguished yellow in fall, but are sometimes tinged with interesting orange and bronze hues.



Plant Care: It needs full sun, attracts butterflies, likes regular watering (but do not overwater), and once established, it takes care of itself. It may be planted as a hedge.

References:

www.missouribotanicalgarden.org