



Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca Pendula' Weeping Atlas Cedar¹

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INTRODUCTION

A handsome evergreen for specimen planting where it will not be crowded since the tree looks its best when branches are left on the tree to the ground (Fig. 1). This shows off the wonderful weeping form with lower branches spreading about half the height. Spread, height and tree form is somewhat dependant on how the tree was trained. It can probably reach 30 to 40 feet tall if it was staked. Allow plenty of room for branches to spread. The tree is best located as a lawn specimen away from walks, streets, and sidewalks so branches will not have to be pruned. It looks odd if lower branches are removed. Older trees become flat-topped and are a beautiful sight to behold.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Scientific name: *Cedrus atlantica* 'Glauca Pendula'

Pronunciation: SEE-drus at-LAN-tih-kuh

Common name(s): Weeping Atlas Cedar

Family: *Pinaceae*

USDA hardiness zones: 6 through 8 (Fig. 2)

Origin: not native to North America

Uses: Bonsai; specimen

Availability: grown in small quantities by a small number of nurseries

DESCRIPTION

Height: 10 to 15 feet

Spread: 6 to 10 feet

Crown uniformity: irregular outline or silhouette

Crown shape: weeping

Crown density: moderate

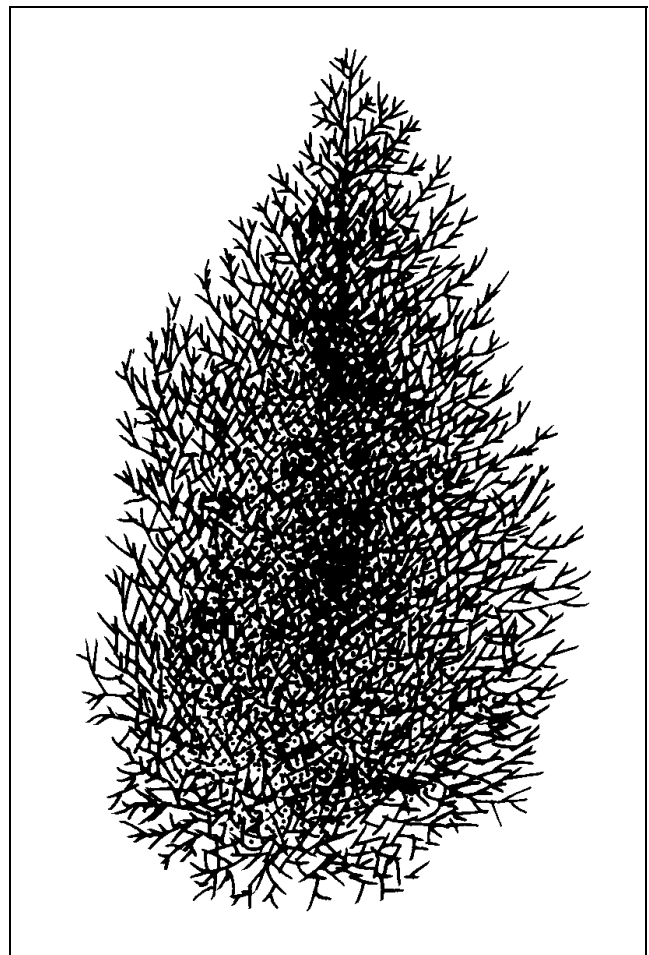


Figure 1. Young Weeping Atlas Cedar.

Growth rate: medium

Texture: fine

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

Foliage

Leaf arrangement: spiral (Fig. 3)

Leaf type: simple

Leaf margin: entire

Leaf shape: needle-like (filiform)

Leaf venation: parallel

Leaf type and persistence: evergreen; needle leaf
evergreen

Leaf blade length: less than 2 inches

Leaf color: blue or blue-green; green

Fall color: no fall color change

Fall characteristic: not showy

Flower

Flower characteristics: inconspicuous and not
showy; spring flowering

Fruit

Fruit shape: oval

Fruit length: 3 to 6 inches

Fruit covering: dry or hard

Fruit color: brown

Fruit characteristics: does not attract wildlife; no
significant litter problem; showy

Trunk and Branches

Trunk/bark/branches: droop as the tree grows, and
will require pruning for vehicular or pedestrian
clearance beneath the canopy; not particularly showy;
should be grown with a single leader; no thorns

Pruning requirement: requires pruning to develop
strong structure

Breakage: resistant

Current year twig color: brown; green

Current year twig thickness: medium

Culture

Light requirement: tree grows in part shade/part sun;
tree grows in full sun

Soil tolerances: clay; loam; sand; slightly alkaline;
acidic; well-drained

Drought tolerance: high

Aerosol salt tolerance: moderate

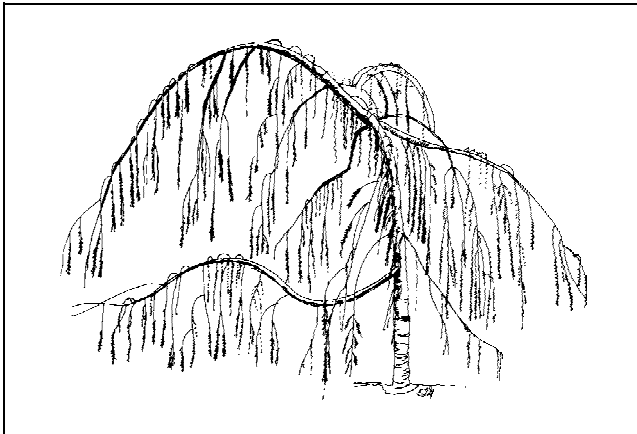


Figure 3. Foliage of Weeping Atlas Cedar.

root rots or black scale and the Deodar weevil. Usually no pest protection or control is necessary.

Sap-suckers are attracted to the trunk and often riddle it with small holes. This usually does little lasting harm to the tree.

Other

Roots: surface roots are usually not a problem

Winter interest: no special winter interest

Outstanding tree: tree has outstanding ornamental features and could be planted more

Invasive potential: little, if any, potential at this time

Verticillium wilt susceptibility: not known to be susceptible

Pest resistance: no pests are normally seen on the tree

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Difficult to transplant, it should be moved as a container plant. Soil preference is for well-drained deep loam, on the acid side, but it can tolerate sandy or clay soils, if they are well-drained. The tree looks its best when it sheltered from strong wind. The tree looks its best when sheltered from strong winds but tolerates open conditions, and will grow in full sun or partial shade. Allow for plenty of soil space around the tree since growth will be poor in restricted soil space. Tolerates extensive drought only when grown in an area where roots can explore a large soil area. Performs well in all areas within its hardiness range. It is suitable in zone 9 in California and perhaps in Florida.

Cultivars: Two other especially desirable cultivars are *Cedrus atlantica* 'Pendula', a weeping form, and *Cedrus atlantica* 'Argentea', having beautiful silver-blue foliage.

Pests

Generally free of insect pests and resistant to diseases, they may occasionally fall prey to tip blight,