



## *Cercidiphyllum japonicum* 'Pendula' 'Pendula' Katsuratree<sup>1</sup>

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### INTRODUCTION

Weeping Katsuratree grows best in a sunny exposure and in a moist soil, but is considered drought-tolerant once established (Fig. 1). The tree reaches a height of 15 to 30 feet with a cascading irregular canopy and spectacular yellow with some red fall color. New growth is reddish turning a light pale green. The growth rate is moderately rapid when young but slows down with age. The tree often has a shallow root system. The trunk normally flares out at the base, gracefully dividing into the numerous shallow roots often prominent at the soil surface.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Scientific name:** *Cercidiphyllum japonicum* 'Pendula'

**Pronunciation:** ser-sih-dih-FILL-um  
juh-PAWN-ih-kum

**Common name(s):** 'Pendula' Katsuratree

**Family:** *Cercidiphyllaceae*

**USDA hardiness zones:** 4B through 8 (Fig. 2)

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Uses:** recommended for buffer strips around parking lots or for median strip plantings in the highway; specimen

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

### DESCRIPTION

**Height:** 15 to 30 feet

**Spread:** 15 to 25 feet

**Crown uniformity:** symmetrical canopy with a regular (or smooth) outline, and individuals have more

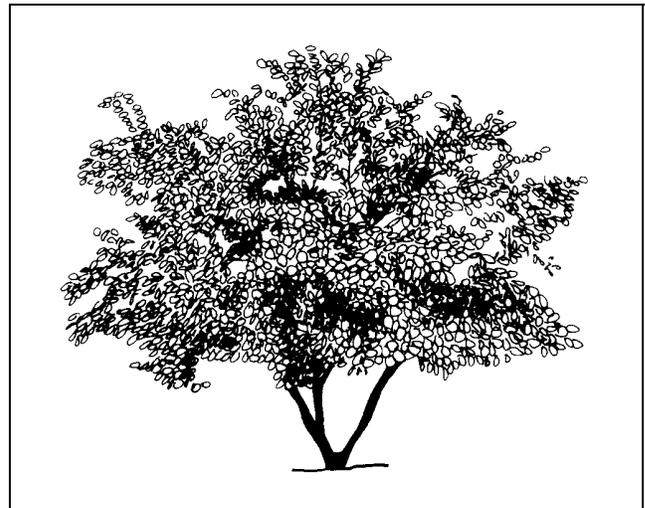


Figure 1. Middle-aged 'Pendula' Katsuratree.

or less identical crown forms

**Crown shape:** round; weeping

**Crown density:** moderate

**Growth rate:** medium

**Texture:** medium

### Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** opposite/subopposite (Fig. 3)

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** crenate

**Leaf shape:** orbiculate; ovate

**Leaf venation:** palmate; reticulate

**Leaf type and persistence:** deciduous

**Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches

**Leaf color:** green

**Fall color:** yellow

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

**Fall characteristic:** showy

### Flower

**Flower color:** green

**Flower characteristics:** inconspicuous and not showy; spring flowering

### Fruit

**Fruit shape:** elongated; pod

**Fruit length:** .5 to 1 inch

**Fruit covering:** dry or hard

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

### Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** droop as the tree grows, and will require pruning for vehicular or pedestrian clearance beneath the canopy; routinely grown with, or trainable to be grown with, multiple trunks; showy trunk; no thorns

**Pruning requirement:** requires pruning to develop strong structure

**Breakage:** susceptible to breakage either at the crotch due to poor collar formation, or the wood itself is weak and tends to break

**Current year twig color:** brown

**Current year twig thickness:** thin

### 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:** moderate

**Aerosol salt tolerance:** moderate

### Other

**Roots:** surface roots can lift sidewalks or interfere with mowing

**Winter interest:** tree has winter interest due to unusual form, nice persistent fruits, showy winter trunk, or winter flowers

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

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



**Figure 3.** Foliage of 'Pendula' Katsuratree.

**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** not known to be susceptible

**Pest resistance:** no pests are normally seen on the tree

### **USE AND MANAGEMENT**

The tree is best used as a specimen planted to show off the unusual form and character of the crown. Katsuratree has proven to be fairly pest free. Transplant in spring.

Katsuratree is intolerant of drought and should be protected from direct exposure to wind. Leaves often drop in mid to late summer in response to dry weather. Not suited for compacted soil since the shallow roots will be a nuisance for lawn and sidewalk maintenance. Provide irrigation and keep the soil beneath the canopy mulched. Coarse root system calls for production in fabric containers, frequent root pruning field-grown stock, or growing in air root-pruned containers.

### **Pests and diseases**

None serious. Occasionally chewing insects eat the foliage.