

Eastern Red Cedar



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Description: The Eastern Red Cedar is a species of juniper native to eastern North America from southeastern Canada to the Gulf of Mexico and east of the Great Plains. Eastern Red Cedar is a dense slow-growing coniferous evergreen tree that may never become more than a bush on poor soil,

Height: 40 -50 feet.

Trunk Diameter: 1 - 3 feet.

Spread: 8 - 20 feet.

Growth Rate: Slow/medium.

Leaves: Leaves are scale-like and evergreen. Leaves are compacted to form rounded or 4-sided branchlets.

Fall Color: Evergreen

Fruit: Produces rounded fruit that is gray or bluish-green in color and about 1/4" in diameter. This fruit resembles a berry but is actually a cone made of fused cone scales. Smells like gin.

Roots: Deep roots.

Sun: Does well in all exposures including shade but prefers full sun.

Value: Eastern red cedar twigs and foliage are eaten by browsing animals while the fruit is eaten by cedar waxwings. Evergreen foliage provides nesting and roosting cover for sparrows, robins, mockingbirds, juncos and warblers. In bush form it is useful as a screen. The aromatic wood is avoided by moths

Issues: Should not be planted near apple trees due to cedar-apple rust. Susceptible to bag worm.

