

Botanical Name: Catalpa speciosa

Common Name: Western catalpa

Type of Plant: dicot: tree Character deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a large, erect, single-trunked tree, with an oval to rounded canopy; can be rather loose and irregular in growth if not trained by pruning; can be massive in its natural habitat

Height 40'-70' Spread 3/4 to equal Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun preferred, but tolerates partial

Soil tolerates most except highly alkaline soils

Hardiness hardy (all zones): thrives in hot sunny locations

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, opposite, broadly ovate-cordate; blade is 6"-12" long; blade dark green above, soft-pubescent beneath

Flowers whitish, showy, trumpet-shaped, spotted with purple and yellow spots; about 2" long, in open 4"-6" long panicles; April-July

Fruit a capsule; 8"-18" long, cylindrical

Propagation: seed

Usage: a large accent tree used for its flower display and large foliage; a suitable shade tree for large-area landscapes; messy (flower, fruit and leaf drop)

Landscape Care:

Watering moderate is preferred; tolerates some drought after established

Fertilizing balanced in spring; check for chlorosis

Pruning stake and head high when young; develop a high canopy

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions

Origin: Central U.S.A. Family: Bignoniaceae