

Botanical Name: Chionanthus retusus

Common Name: Chinese fringe tree

Type of Plant: dicot: tree **Family** Oleaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape Rounded, spreading ascending branches form a shrubby, often multi-trunked canopy; often pruned as a single-trunked specimen tree

Height to 20 ft. **Spread** to 20 ft. **Growth Rate** slow-moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun preferred

Soil prefers a soil with good drainage

Hardiness Hardy; Zones 3-9, 14-24

Morphology:

Leaves medium green ovate leaves to 3" long, glossy and entire; mostly alternately arranged

Flowers dioecious; flowers are pure white in 4" long panicles; very finely divided and fan-like; male flowers larger than female

Fruit 1/2" blue or purple drupe on female trees; favored by birds

Propagation: seed

Usage: superb patio tree, accent tree, can be used as a parking-lot tree or street tree; grown for spectacular spring flower display and scent; often looks best against a dark background

Landscape Care:

Watering takes average watering; drainage should be excellent

Fertilizing slow release at planting time

Pruning thin out trunks; head up as needed

Pests/Diseases none serious

Other female trees must be pollinated by males to produce fruit

Origin: Eastern Asia
