

Botanical Name: Ziziphus jujuba

Common Name: Chinese Jujube

Type of Plant: dicot: tree Character deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a mostly erect, single or multi-trunked plant; branches rather gnarled, spiny, with an irregular zig-zag pattern, sometimes drooping; mature plants develop a loose rounded canopy

Height 15-20' (30') Spread 2/3 to equal Growth Rate slow-moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun

Soil tolerates most, including saline and alkaline desert soils

Hardiness hardy (zones 7-16, 18-24); thrives in hot inland habitats

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate (with 2 prominent lateral veins near margins), alternate oblong-ovate to ovate-lanceolate; serrate, 1-2" long, bright green

Flowers yellowish, small, in short axillary cymes; May-June

Fruit a drupe; fleshy, reddish brown, datelike; ripens in fall

Propagation: seed, followed by grafting

Usage: a small accent tree for its distinctive branching pattern and fruit; patio or lawn tree, silhouette or background mass; foliage turns yellow in fall if grown away from coast at colder locations

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers regular, deep watering; becomes very drought-tolerant after established

Fertilizing only as needed; little required unless heavily watered

Pruning head high and develop an open, weeping form

Pests/Diseases relatively free; subject to Texas root rot in desert areas

Special Conditions

Origin: Asia Family: Rhamnaceae