

Botanical Name: Ficus benjamina

Common Name: Weeping Chinese banyan, Weeping fig

Type of Plant: dicot: tree Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an upright, mostly single-trunked plant with spreading primary branches and pendulous terminal branches forming a dense rounded canopy; the plant develops a smooth, gray bark

Height 20-30' Spread 2/3 to equal Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full or partial sun; can tolerate indoor light

Soil any well-draining location is preferred; avoid alkaline

Hardiness some frost (zones 13, 23-24); thrives in mild coast

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, alternate, ovate-oval, with a very distinct aristate apex; leaf is 2-5" long, bright green, shiny

Flowers inconspicuous, greenish, tiny

Fruit a small greenish-tan synconium

Propagation: semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: a very widely used small accent tree, prized for its weeping form and distinctive 'clean' foliage; often used as a container plant or espalier; can be pruned into a topiary; shallow aggressive root system

Landscape Care:

Watering regular is preferred; thrives w/heavy irrigation if the soil drainage is good; is not very drought-tolerant

Fertilizing balanced, as needed; check for iron chlorosis

Pruning to shape desired, anytime

Pests/Diseases outside, relatively free; indoors gets whitefly, mealybugs

Special Conditions

Origin: India Family: Moraceae