

Botanical Name: Sequoiadendron giganteum (Sequoia gigantea)

Common Name: Giant sequoia, Big tree

Type of Plant: conifer: tree Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a potentially very tall and massive tree; at first distinctly pyramidal in form and densely branched, becoming more round-topped and broken at summit of canopy with age; branchlets somewhat prickly

Height 30-60' (to 300) Spread 1/4 - 1/3 Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors prefers full sun; tolerates some shade at interior sites

Soil needs deep, well-draining soil; avoid waterlogged locales

Hardiness (all zones): better than S. sempervirens at inland sites

Morphology:

Leaves scalelike foliage is gray-green, 1/8"-1/2" long, sharply pointed (prickly); scales are overlapping, thickly covering the stems

Flowers none;

Fruit female cone: reddish brown, oval, 2-3 1/2" long; ripens in the second year.

Propagation: seed

Usage: a rugged vertical accent tree, prized for its dense pyramidal form and tolerance of harsher climate than the Coast Redwood; large background or in groves; large-scale lawn tree if drainage is excellent

Landscape Care:

Watering an infrequent deep soaking is preferred after plant is established; tolerates considerable drought

Fertilizing as needed in youth; with age, only if heavily irrigated

Pruning preferably none; remove lower limbs if access needed

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions give plenty of room for vertical growth

Origin: Western sierra Family: Taxodiaceae