

Botanical Name: Calodendrum capense

Common Name: Cape chestnut

Type of Plant: dicot: tree Character mostly evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an erect, single-trunked tree, with a fairly symmetrical rounded canopy; the white bark and branch structure resembles some of the Ficus species

Height 30'-50' (60') Spread 2/3 to equal Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full or partial sun

Soil well-draining loam preferred

Hardiness some frost (zones 9, 21-24): best if grown near the coast

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, mostly opposite, oval-elliptic; 4"-6" (8") long, medium green; petioles 1/2"-1" long

Flowers dramatic 10"-12" long spikes of rose-pink flowers, each 1 1/2" diameter; late spring-summer

Fruit a round capsule; 1 1/2" diameter

Propagation: seed

Usage: a dramatic large-scale accent tree, valued for its flower display; an excellent shade or lawn tree

Landscape Care:

Watering regular preferred

Fertilizing balanced in late spring; gets chlorotic in over-watered clay soil

Pruning head high when young, otherwise little pruning needed

Pests/Diseases aphids, sooty mold

Special Conditions

Origin: So. Africa Family: Rutaceae