

Eastern Red Cedar (Juniperus virginiana)

40-50'x 8-20' aromatic evergreen,
broad pyramid to dense column.
moderate growth rate

Gnarled fluted trunk,
handsome reddish brown bark exfoliates in long strips.

Rich green scale-like prickly (browse resistant) foliage,
closely pressed to stem and overlapping,
with strong cedar scent to them

Male trees make covered with tiny brown cones,
female trees with small light blue cones called juniper berries,
late summer through winter.

Sun to part shade, prefers sunny airy sites.
Moist to dry soils, prefers moist well-drained,
doesn't tolerate shade or swamps,
but adapts to extremes of heat, drought, wind, poor soil,
prospering where few other plants survive

Native to old fields, pastures, swamp margins.
New England native.

Use for specimen, masses, windbreaks, hedges, screens, difficult sites;
Wood for cedar products, fence posts; juniper berries flavor gin

Attracts songbirds (over 80 species), butterflies, small mammals.



Photo 1, 3, 4, 5

Pat Breen, Oregon State University
www.oregonstate.edu/dept/ldplants

Photo 2

University of Connecticut Plant Database
<http://www.hort.uconn.edu/plants/j/junvir/junvir1.html>