

# Ritchie

## FEED & SEED INC.



### Chinese Dogwood

*Cornus kousa 'var. chinensis'*

Height: 30 feet

Spread: 25 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Kousa Dogwood

#### Description:

A lovely shrubby and broad spreading dogwood with large white bracts; late spring blooms last for several weeks; covered in raspberry-like fruit in fall

#### Ornamental Features

Chinese Dogwood features showy clusters of white flowers with white bracts held atop the branches in late spring. It features an abundance of magnificent crimson berries from early to mid fall. It has green foliage throughout the season. The pointy leaves turn an outstanding brick red in the fall. The peeling gray bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

#### Landscape Attributes

Chinese Dogwood is a multi-stemmed deciduous tree with a stunning habit of growth which features almost oriental horizontally-tiered branches. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Chinese Dogwood is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Chinese Dogwood flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Chinese Dogwood in bloom*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

#### Ottawa West

2079 Carp Road  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
K2S 1B9  
Telephone: +1 613 836 6880

#### Ottawa East

1390 Windmill Lane  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
K1B 4V5  
Toll Free: +1 800 267 1922  
Telephone: +1 613 741 4430

#### Brockville

3043 County Rd. 29  
Brockville, Ontario, Canada  
K6V 5T4  
Telephone: +1 613 341 9343

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## **FEED & SEED INC.**

- Accent
- Shade

### **Planting & Growing**

Chinese Dogwood will grow to be about 30 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 25 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the leaves in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

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