

Katsura tree

Cercidiphyllum japonicum



About me: My rounded or pyramidal shape and heart-shaped leaves make me a popular landscape tree. My leaves are extra special because they turn brilliant colors and smell sweet (burnt sugar smell) in autumn. I also have separate male and female plants.

My story: I am native to Japan and China, where I like moist, shady forests. I usually grow 40 to 60 feet tall in gardens, but I have reached heights of 140 feet in the wild!

Why I'm rare: I have trouble reproducing in the wild in China, where I am threatened by land conversion and isolation.

How you can help: Tell your friends about threatened species and donate or volunteer to protect native habitats near you.



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