

KOUSA or KOREAN DOGWOOD *Cornus kousa*

Zones 5 6 7 8

Spreading small deciduous tree. Moderate growth rate. Matures to 15-25' (4.5-7.5m) high, spreads to 12-20' (3.6-6m).

Flowers in late spring and early summer after leaves have expanded. Flat sprays of 3-5" (7.6-12.7cm) blossoms along tops of branches; white or tinged pink. Flowers followed by soft red berries, eaten by birds.

Leaves of strong green color, up to 3" (7.6cm) long. Fall color of reddish brown.

Soil: moist, well-drained, acid (pH5.5-6.5). Supplement with leaf mold, peat moss or compost. Mulch every spring after soil has warmed. Water thoroughly when dry, particularly in late summer when new buds form.

Light: full sun in north, light shade in south.

Pruning: not usually recommended since dogwoods are slow to heal.

Uses: specimen or accent, group plantings.

