

# Kousa Dogwood



## *Cornus kousa*

- **Use:** The Kousa dogwood is a handsome, small- to medium-sized tree reaching a mature height of 30 feet. Sometimes referred to as the Chinese dogwood, this Asian cousin to our native flowering dogwood can be used as a specimen plant or in shrub borders. This most vigorous, disease-resistant tree with makes a perfect focal point or street tree with multiple seasons of beauty!
- **Exposure/Soil:** Part sun-shade. Best when planted under other trees, but not too deep a shade or poor flowering. Moist, well-drained soil, but not soggy. Use slow release fertilizer two times a year. Water regularly, when top 3 in. of soil is dry.
- **Growth:** Reaches 25 ft. tall and 20 ft. wide. Young trees grow in an upright fashion and in somewhat of a conical shape. They are vase-shaped in their youth. As a Kousa matures, it develops more horizontal branching, rounded form, and becomes more wide-spreading. This tree does better in open areas like lawns than the native trees do but is prefers some light shade especially in the afternoon. It prefers well-drained acidic soil and while it tolerates some dry soil it will not survive in water-logged environments. It has shallow roots so does not like to be transplanted. If necessary transplant in the early spring.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 4-8; Tree
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. The green leaves turn brilliant shades of pink before dropping in the fall.
- **Flower:** Large white flowers with pointed petals produce bright strawberry-like fruits in early spring.

The best of the Dogwood types.  
A strong specimen!