

Katsura (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*)

The Katsura tree, native to Japan, makes an excellent specimen or shade tree in Midwestern landscapes. . It is a deciduous, single or multi-trunked, understory tree with a dense, rounded habit that typically matures to 40-60' tall in cultivation, but can reach 100' or more in the wild. Its foliage offers an array of color throughout the year. In spring, heart-shaped leaves emerge reddish-purple, changing to blue-green as they mature. In autumn the color display changes again as leaves turn a clear yellow or apricot color.

Best grown in rich, moist, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Tolerates full sun, but has little tolerance for drought particularly when young. Best suited in a location protected from strong winds and hot afternoon sun.