Cotton Candy™ Redbud

Cercis canadensis 'Sjo'



Cotton Candy Redbud flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Eastern Redbud, Judas Tree, Love Tree

Description:

A small ornamental tree featuring stunning pink flowers with touches of lavender, on bare branches in early spring; Clean, medium green foliage holds color until turning yellow in fall; adaptable to soil conditions; an excellent landscape accent

Ornamental Features

Cotton Candy Redbud features showy shell pink pea-like flowers with lavender overtones and rose calyces along the branches from early to mid spring, which emerge from distinctive creamy white flower buds before the leaves. It has dark green deciduous foliage which emerges light green in spring. The heart-shaped leaves turn an outstanding yellow in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Cotton Candy Redbud is a deciduous tree with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease

Cotton Candy Redbud is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Cotton Candy Redbud will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 3 feet 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 60 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, 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 selection of a native North American species.