

## *Cedrus deodara* 'Kashmir' 'Kashmir' Deodar Cedar<sup>1</sup>

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### INTRODUCTION

With its pyramidal shape, soft silver-blue needles and drooping branches, this cedar makes a graceful specimen or accent tree (Fig. 1). It has better cold hardiness than the species. Growing rapidly to 40 to 50 feet tall and 20 to 30 feet wide, it also works well as a soft screen. The trunk stays fairly straight with lateral branches nearly horizontal and drooping. Lower branches should be left on the tree so the true form of the tree can show. Allow plenty of room for these to spread. They are best located as a lawn specimen away from walks, streets, and sidewalks so branches will not have to be pruned. Large specimens have trunks almost three feet in diameter.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Scientific name:** *Cedrus deodara* 'Kashmir'

**Pronunciation:** SEE-drus dee-oh-DAR-uh

**Common name(s):** 'Kashmir' Deodar Cedar

**Family:** *Pinaceae*

**USDA hardiness zones:** 6 through 8 (Fig. 2)

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Uses:** wide tree lawns (>6 feet wide); recommended for buffer strips around parking lots or for median strip plantings in the highway; screen; specimen; residential street tree

**Availability:** grown in small quantities by a small number of nurseries



Figure 1. Young 'Kashmir' Deodar Cedar.

### DESCRIPTION

**Height:** 40 to 60 feet

**Spread:** 20 to 30 feet

**Crown uniformity:** symmetrical canopy with a regular (or smooth) outline, and individuals have more

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

or less identical crown forms

**Crown shape:** pyramidal

**Crown density:** moderate

**Growth rate:** fast

**Texture:** fine

**Foliage**

**Leaf arrangement:** spiral (Fig. 3)

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire

**Leaf shape:** needle-like (filiform)

**Leaf venation:** parallel

**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen; needle leaf evergreen

**Leaf blade length:** less than 2 inches

**Leaf color:** silver

**Fall color:** no fall color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

**Flower**

**Flower characteristics:** inconspicuous and not showy; spring flowering

**Fruit**

**Fruit shape:** oval

**Fruit length:** 3 to 6 inches

**Fruit covering:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** brown

**Fruit characteristics:** does not attract wildlife; no significant litter problem; persistent on the tree; showy

**Trunk and Branches**

**Trunk/bark/branches:** droop as the tree grows, and will require pruning for vehicular or pedestrian clearance beneath the canopy; not particularly showy; should be grown with a single leader; no thorns

**Pruning requirement:** needs little pruning to develop a strong structure

**Breakage:** resistant

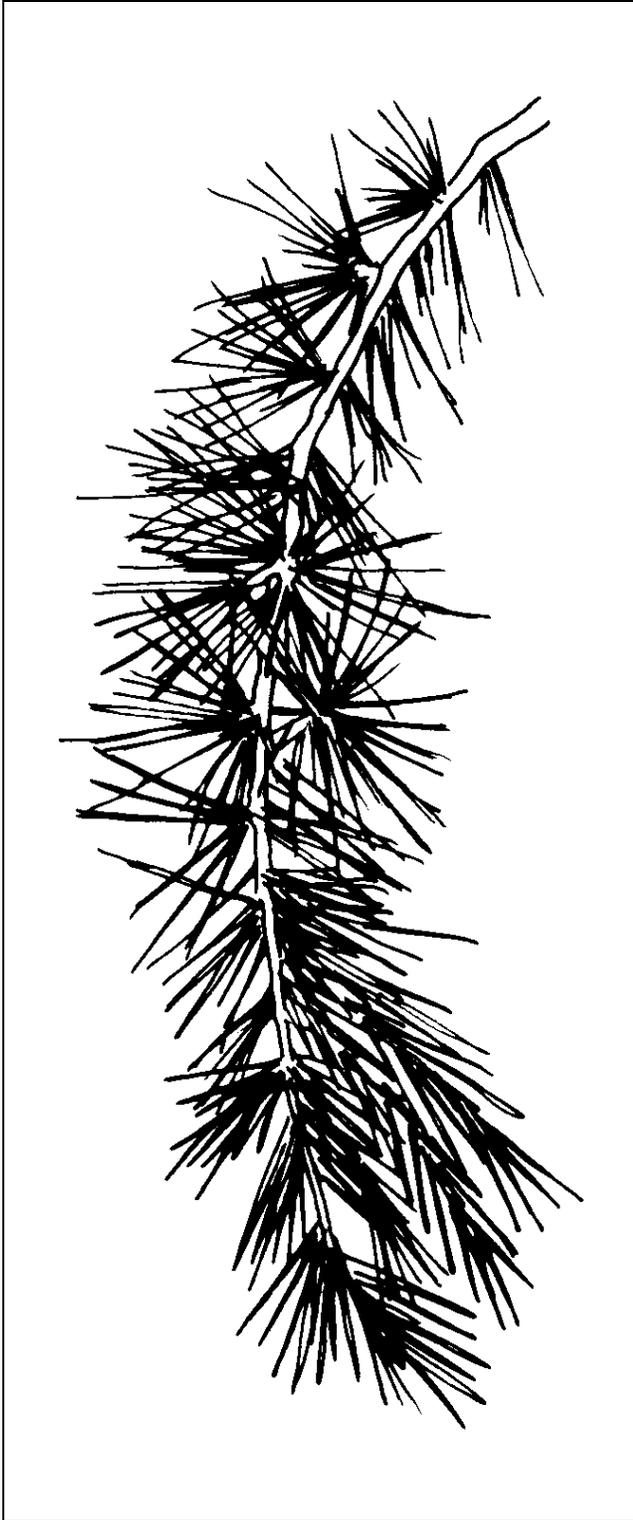
**Current year twig color:** brown; green

**Current year twig thickness:** medium

**Culture**

**Light requirement:** tree grows in full sun

**Soil tolerances:** clay; loam; sand; slightly alkaline; acidic; well-drained



**Figure 3.** Foliage of 'Kashmir' Deodar Cedar.

**Drought tolerance:** high

### **Other**

**Roots:** surface roots are usually not a problem

**Winter interest:** no special winter interest

**Outstanding tree:** tree has outstanding ornamental features and could be planted more

**Invasive potential:** little, if any, potential at this time

**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** not known to be susceptible

**Pest resistance:** long-term health usually not affected by pests

### **USE AND MANAGEMENT**

The species has been successfully used as a street or median planting with lower branches removed. It appears to tolerate compacted, poor soil but declines in areas where smog is a problem. Plant on 20-foot-centers to create a canopy of blue foliage over a small residential street. This is probably the best true cedar for the South.

Transplants easily if root-pruned or from a container and protected from sweeping winds. It does well in dry, sunny spots and will tolerate high pH and clay soil. Cold-damaged trees die back at the top.

There are some other attractive cultivars. 'Aurea' has yellow leaves (looks ill); 'Pendula' has long, drooping leaves; 'Robusta' has stiffer twigs.

### **Pests and Diseases**

No pests or diseases are of major concern. Perhaps scales, borers, deodar weevils, and bagworms. Following a cold winter, tops often decline and dieback. Secondary fungi can sometimes be associated with this decline.