

# *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 cultivar makes a graceful specimen or accent tree. 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*

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

**Common name(s):** 'Kashmir' deodar cedar

**Family:** *Pinaceae*

**USDA hardiness zones:** 6A through 8B (Figure 2)

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Invasive potential:** not assessed/incomplete assessment



Figure 1. Young *Cedrus deodara* 'Kashmir': 'Kashmir' deodar cedar.

**Uses:** specimen; screen; street without sidewalk; tree lawn > 6 ft wide; highway median

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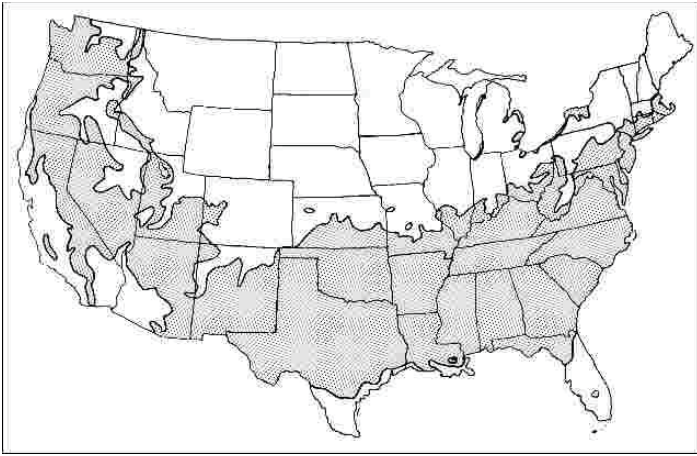


Figure 2. Range

## Description

**Height:** 40 to 60 feet

**Spread:** 20 to 30 feet

**Crown uniformity:** symmetrical

**Crown shape:** pyramidal

**Crown density:** moderate

**Growth rate:** fast

**Texture:** fine

## Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** spiral (Figure 3)

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire

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

**Leaf venation:** parallel

**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen, needled evergreen

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

**Leaf color:** silver

**Fall color:** no color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

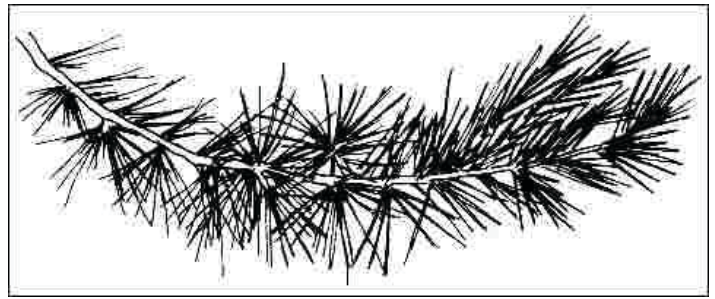


Figure 3. Foliage

## Flower

**Flower color:** unknown

**Flower characteristics:** not showy

## Fruit

**Fruit shape:** oval, cone

**Fruit length:** 3 to 6 inches

**Fruit covering:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** brown

**Fruit characteristics:** does not attract wildlife; showy; fruit/leaves not a litter problem

## Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** branches droop; not showy; typically one trunk; thorns

**Pruning requirement:** little required

**Breakage:** resistant

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

**Current year twig thickness:** medium

**Wood specific gravity:** unknown

## Culture

**Light requirement:** full sun

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

**Drought tolerance:** high

**Aerosol salt tolerance:** unknown

## Other

**Roots:** not a problem

**Winter interest:** no

**Outstanding tree:** yes

**Ozone sensitivity:** unknown

**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** resistant

**Pest resistance:** resistant to pests/diseases

## 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'—yellow leaves (looks ill); 'Pendula'—long, drooping leaves; 'Robusta'—stiffer twigs.

## Pests and Diseases

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