



## **Pistacia chinensis (Chinese Pistache)**

**Height** 25' to 40'

**Spread** 25' to 35'

**Growth rate** Medium

**Bloom Color** Red

**Bloom Time** Spring

### **Environment**

Grows quickly in full sun to partial shade on moderately fertile well drained soils and will withstand heat and drought extremely well. Has been grown in urban areas where poor drainage, compacted soils and drought are common. Will grow in a wide range of soil PH but has poor salt tolerance.

### **Description**

This deciduous tree has merit for use in urban street tree plantings due to its drought tolerance, moderate size, exceptional form and fall color, it has bright red fruit (on female trees) ripening to dark blue and peeling attractive bark. It will grow in zones 6 through 9 but is not a native of North America.

### **Culture Notes**

This tree can need special pruning in its early years to create a desirable branch structure. The female is considered mostly allergy free and causes little or no allergy problems, but males generate allergenic pollen.

### **Pests and Diseases**

Chinese Pistache is relatively pest free but it can be occasionally affected by verticillium wilt.

### **Maintain adequate mulch area**

Clear all turf away from beneath the branches and mulch to the drip line, especially on young trees to reduce competition with turf and weeds. This will allow roots to become well established and keep plants healthier. Apply a thinner layer of mulch directly over the root ball but keep it away from the trunk. This allows rainwater, irrigation and air to easily enter the root ball and keeps the trunk dry. Placing mulch against the trunk and applying too thick a layer above the root ball can kill the tree.

### **Tree establishment Specifications**

Choose good quality trees for planting and locate the tree properly, taking into account the ultimate size, since the tree looks best if it is not pruned to control size.

The most common cause of young tree failure is planting too deep. In most instances, the point where the top most roots in the root ball originate from the trunk should be located just above the soil surface.

Trees with good, strong structure need no pruning at planting, except to remove broken twigs. Do not remove branches to compensate for root loss, research has shown that this can be detrimental to establishment.