

CONCLUSIONS

The basic conclusion is that microcuttings of elm are of low quality and generally produce variable rooting and acclimation results. However, the surviving micropropagated plants make excellent stock for a new generation of cuttings. Such "second generation" cuttings will root with high success and produce quality propagules within a month.

Cercidiphyllum japonicum 'Amazing Grace' a New Weeping Katsura Selection From Theodore Klein

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Cercidiphyllum japonicum 'Amazing Grace' is a weeping form of katsura tree which has recently been released to the marketplace. The primary features which set apart this selection from the typical weeping form are plant size, branching, and fall foliage color.

The typical *C. japonicum* 'Pendulum' grows from 15 to 25 ft tall and unless staked and heavily pruned, will form a dense tangled mass of weeping branches. 'Amazing Grace' forms a larger spreading specimen up to approximately 40 ft tall or more with an equal or greater spread. The plant will form a sturdy graceful but ascending main trunk with only minor support initially. Branching is far more open than 'Pendula' and produces a superb specimen in the landscape.

Foliage color in *C. japonicum* 'Amazing Grace' is a soft blue-green in the summer, changing to a bright golden-yellow in fall. This is in contrast to the typical *C. japonicum* 'Pendulum' which often fails to produce much in the way of fall foliage color.

This new release is a selection of the late Theodore Klein of Crestwood, Kentucky who also released *Cersis canadensis* 'Silver Cloud' and *Ilex opaca* cultivars 'Judy Evans' and 'Virginia Giant'. *Cercidiphyllum japonicum* 'Amazing Grace' was discovered around 1960 as a chance seedling in an Indiana nursery. Two of the original plants produced are at Bernheim Arboretum and Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville, Kentucky. The plant is easily produced by budding onto seedling rootstock. A 6- to 7-ft-tall budded whip is easily produced in one season under Kentucky growing conditions. Budwood is available from Bernheim in limited quantities.