



Species: *Cornus alternifolia*

Pagoda Dogwood

Cultivar Information

* See specific cultivar notes on next page.

Ornamental Characteristics

Size: Tree < 30 feet

Height: 15' - 25' (can be wider in spread)

Leaves: Deciduous

Shape: spreading, horizontal; usually multi-stem shrub but can be single tree

Ornamental Other: best in shade or part shade

Environmental Characteristics

Light: Part shade, Shade

Hardy To Zone: 4a

Soil Ph: Requires acid (pH 5.0 to 7.0)

Environmental Other: best in shade or part shade

Insect Disease

leaf spot, twig blight, canker

Bare Root Transplanting

Any

Other

œœCornus alternifolia gets its name from being one of the few Cornus species with an alternate leaf

position. These leaves are simple, ovate-elliptic, with acuminate ends and are somewhat clustered near the end of twigs. You will notice the distinctive parallel venation. The leaves have smooth margins and are 2 to 5 inches long. In summer, they are medium to dark green, sometimes turning reddish-purple in autumn. This tree's common name, Pagoda Dogwood, gets its name from its irregularly whorled branching pattern that forms flat horizontal tiers called sympodial branching. Flowers appear in late spring, are yellowish-white, and are born in flat-topped upright clusters resulting in flat-topped fruit about 1/3 of an inch in diameter on a pinky-red stalk. *Cornus alternifolia* requires a moist, acid, well-drained soil in and does best in part-shade. It is cold hardy to Zone 3 and not drought tolerant. This slower growing species makes an attractive specimen tree 15-25 feet tall. Several green and white variegated cultivars are available. A native of the Eastern United States, *Cornus alternifolia* may be found from New Brunswick to Georgia, and west to Minnesota. Transplants best as a young plant.

Cultivars for *Cornus alternifolia*

Showing **1-8** of **8** items.

Cultivar Name	Notes
Argentea	'Argentea' (a.k.a. Variegata) - variegated foliage
Gold Bullion	'Gold Bullion' (a.k.a. 'Bachone') - gold to chartreuse foliage color
Big Chocolate Chip	'Big Chocolate Chip' (a.k.a. 'Bichozam') - faster, more uniform growth and unique chocolate coloration to both the stem and new foliage
Brunette	'Brunette' - reddish-brown stems; dark green leaves with pale green margins
Golden Shadows	'Golden Shadows' - yellow and green variegated foliage; excellent emerging spring foliage color of reddish-orange and yellow
Moonlight	'Moonlight' - white and green variegated leaves, which develop pinkish-red margins in late summer; 8' tall x 6' wide in 10 years
Pistachio	'Pistachio' - dark green foliage with burgundy new growth; yellowish white blooms
Saya	'Saya' - leaf is variegated with a yellow edge on bright green; 7' tall x 4' wide in 10 years

Photos



Cornus alternifolia - Leaves, Flowers



Cornus alternifolia - Leaves, Fruit



Cornus alternifolia - Leaves



Cornus alternifolia - Habit



Cornus alternifolia - Habit



Cornus alternifolia var. - Habit



Cornus alternifolia var. - Leaves



Cornus alternifolia - Bark



Cornus alternifolia - Flowers