



Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Cupressus arizonica* (CUa)

Common Name: Arizona cypress

Species Description

- Evergreen
- Pyramidal shaped tree with a dense bushy crown, sometimes with drooping branches to the ground
- Attractive bark shedding in long strips to reveal grey and reddish-brown patches
- Scale-like dense bluish foliage
- Insignificant flowers
- Round cones turning brown when mature

Height and width

20 metres tall by 12 to 15 metres wide

Species origin

USA, from Arizona to Mexico

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 70\text{m}^3$
- Can be used in parks and for windbreaks
- Not suitable for use as a street tree or near paths due to its low branching structure

Use considerations

- Grows well in Canberra
- High frost tolerance to minus 10 degrees Celsius and high drought tolerance; the most drought resistant of all the Cypress species
- Grows in most soils in the Canberra region
- [Long lived](#)
- Moderate growth rate
- Moderately high flammability
- Resistant to canker
- Produces pollen and seeds and provides wildlife habitat for bird nesting
- Formative pruning is required to reduce low branching if service access is required
- Listed as a problematic tree species under the *Tree Protection Act 2005*

Examples in Canberra

An ACT Tree Register tree in front of Gorman House at the corner of Ainslie Avenue and Doonkuna Street, Braddon and registered group of 17 trees located in the corner parks of Yarralumla; other examples at the Hyatt Hotel (planted in 1949) and on King George Terrace at Old Parliament House (planted in 1926)

Availability

Commercially available

