



# Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

## Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

**Botanical Name:** *Pistacia chinensis* syn. *Pistacia sinensis* (PSc) (male form)

**Common Name:** Chinese pistachio

### Species Description

- Deciduous
- Medium sized, rounded tree
- Greyish-brown bark flaking to reveal pinkish-orange younger bark
- Pinnately compound foliage, green in summer and brilliantly red, orange and yellow coloured in autumn
- Insignificant yellowish-green flowers in spring
- Peppercorn-type reddish berries on female plants in autumn; male plants are non-fruiting

### Height and width

8 to 10 metres tall by 6 metres wide

### Species origin

Central China; introduced into Western gardens in 1897

### Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required:  $\geq 15\text{m}^3$
- Ideal for use as a street tree, for shade at urban shopping centres and in urban parks
- Suitable for use in home gardens
- Should not be planted near creeks or watercourses nor in streets adjacent to nature reserves due to its ability to spread

### Use considerations

- Excellent performance in Canberra
- High frost tolerance to minus 10 degrees Celsius and high drought tolerance
- Grows well in most soils
- Will grow in full sun or part shade
- [Medium longevity](#)
- Slow to moderate growth rate
- Very low flammability
- Very tolerant of pruning

### Examples in Canberra

Bedford St, Carmichael St & Robe St, Deakin; Gardiner St, Downer; Irwin St, Yarralumla; Garran shops and there is a group of *Pistacia* at Reid CIT on the corner opposite the Convention Centre

### Availability

Commercially available, including a male non-fruiting cultivar (requires forward ordering)

