

Red buckeye

Aesculus pavia Linneaus



The red buckeye is a shrub or small tree native to the southeast United States. Generally speaking, it is native south of the Ohio River and east of the Great Plains. It normally grows no taller than fifteen to twenty feet. It is prized for its brilliant red flowers in April and May. It has pinnately-compound leaves like all other buckeyes. This species enjoys full sun but is also moderately shade-tolerant. If a tree form is desired, then be sure to trim back shoots to a single strong shoot. Hardy to zone 4.

If this tree is transplanted, it is recommended to do so in earliest spring. If transplanted in the fall, it should be watered regularly during the winter.

Cultivation

Seed should be planted immediately upon receipt and not held, because the radical (root) emerges quickly. Then, normal winter stratification of the nuts is all that is necessary. This can easily be accomplished by planting the seed in fall or early winter, preferably under two or more inches of humus. Alternatively, this can be accomplished by embedding the nuts in a planting mix and storing in the freezer for ten days, then the refrigerator for another sixty days.

Conservation Seed

PO Box 1196, Athens, OH 45701

cs@hokhokken.com