

Key to Garden Taxa of Catalpa: Inclusive of major known species, botanical varieties, forms, and cultivars. The little known *Catalpa tibetica* and confused *C. x erubescens* 'Japonica' are excluded. Highly variable taxa such as *C. ovata* and *C. bungei* are included in more than one section of the key to improve separation in different phases. Species concepts follow the best available regional floras and classic woody plant reference works. Comments, criticisms, and additions are welcome. Living specimens from the J.C. Raulston, Charles R. Keith, Dawes, Cornell Plantations, and US National Arboreta were examined in the preparation of this key.

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- Leaves distinctly purplish at first becoming dark greenish-purple to green
 - Leaves very large to 20 in. wide or more, sometimes 3-lobed, new growth purplish but soon becoming medium green.....*C. x erubescens* 'J.C. Teas', the original or typical clone of this cross.
 - Leaves 6-12 in. long, rarely if ever 3-lobed, new growth very dark blackish-purple becoming dark green.....*C. x erubescens* 'Purpurea'
- Leaves variegated with a chimera in contrasting sectors, flecks, spots, or margins.
 - Leave centered or mottled yellow, vaguely margined.....*C. bignonioides* 'Koehnei' ('Aureomarginata')
 - Leaves veined and marked white.....*C. bungei* 'Variegata'
 - Leaves margined light yellow to cream or white.....*C. bignonioides* 'Variegata'
 - Leaves finely speckled white.....*C. speciosa* 'Pulverulenta'
- Leaves very yellow or suffused yellow at first, becoming green.....*C. bignonioides* 'Aurea'
- Leaves green as typical wild forms, not variegated or highly pigmented, dark, medium, or light green including chartreuse
 - Plant a shrub to dwarf tree, having a dense, globose, mushroom-shaped head of just 3-8 feet tall and wide, often grafted high.....*C. bignonioides* 'Nana' (can appear to be a pendulous mound as old specimens, especially as seen in old gardens and cemeteries)
 - Plant a large shrub to large tree, a canopy of 20 to 100 feet
 - Leaves very often 3-lobed, rarely with 5 lobes, apex acute
 - Flowers 0.75 in. long and wide, entire corolla tinged yellow.....*C. ovata* 'Flavescens' (a very rare clone)
 - Flowers 1.0 in. long or longer, only portions of the corolla tinged yellow
 - Habit open, spreading-arching to subglobose.....*C. ovata* (a common species in gardens)
 - Habit dense, narrowly erect to subcolumnar.....*C. ovata* 'Slender Silhouette' (a new, still rare clone)
 - Leaves often crenate (scalloped) to shallow dentate, sometimes 4-6 teeth per side, often very deltoid, apex always long acuminate.....*C. bungei*
 - Leaves ovate, not lobed, margins entire or nearly so, apex acute to acuminate
 - Flowers double, sterile.....*C. x erubescens* 'Victoria' ('Adina')(still quite rare clone)
 - Flowers single, usually fertile
 - Leaves glabrous at maturity, including glabrous veins below, not scabrous; leaf apex acuminate to long-acuminate and tail-like
 - Leaves ovate-triangular to deltoid (vaguely *Populus*-like at times), base cuneate to truncate, leaf margins sometimes undulate-crenate to shallowly dentate (4-6 teeth, scallops or undulations per side), 3-10 flowers per inflorescence, inflorescence a simple corymb and mostly unbranched in the laterals, fruit length 12-20 in. long (but rarely seen in temperate climates).....*C. bungei* (true, not *C. bungei* hort. which is often *C. bignonioides* 'Nana').
 - Leaves ovate, base truncate to cordate, leaf margins entire and mostly flat to scarcely undulate, 7-20 flowers per large inflorescence, inflorescence a large corymb to small panicle, highly branched in the laterals, fruit very long to 24-30 in.....*C. fargesii* f. *duclouxii*
 - Leaves pubescent to scabrous at maturity, either on the entire blade or only on veins below; leaf apex acute to short acuminate
 - Flowers distinctly pink, light red, to purple overall, inflorescence a corymb of 7-15 flowers.....*C. fargesii* f. *fargesii*

Flowers yellowish, cream, or white overall, inflorescence usually a large panicle of 12-many flowers

- Leaves densely pubescent below throughout, later only pubescent on veins below, corolla white with purplish and yellow spots or lines.
 - Lower corolla lobe entire, corolla 2-4cm wide; fruit pod 6-10mm thick; seed wings pointed to an acute apex or short tufted, tail.....C. bignonioides
 - Lower corolla lobe notched, corolla 4-6cm wide; fruit pod 10-15mm thick; seed wings rounded to oblique, a spread out wing or fringe, not pointed.....C. speciosa
- Leaves scabrous below to subglabrous (nearly hairless) below, permanently downy on veins below; corolla highly stained or tinged yellow
 - Flowers 0.75 in. long and wide, entire corolla tinged yellow.....C. ovata 'Flavescens' (a very rare clone)
 - Flowers 1.0 in. long or longer, only portions of the corolla tinged yellow
 - Habit open, spreading-arching to subglobose.....C. ovata (a common species in gardens)
 - Habit dense, narrowly erect to subcolumnar.....C. ovata 'Slender Silhouette' (a new, still rare clone)

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