

Key to Garden Taxa of Cedrus (Hatch 2015)

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1. Branches semi-pendulous to pendulous.....2
 - 1, Branches erect to divergent or rigid.....3
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2. Plants wider than tall, mounded to tent-like; needles less than 3cm long, distinctly glaucous blue.....*Cedrus atlantica* f. *glauca* 'Glaucula Pendula'.
 2. Plants taller than wide, pyramidal; needles 3-6 cm long, green to bluish-green or grey.....*Cedrus deodara* and numerous cultivars, these include strong weepers as well as low-spreading, very horizontal mounds, the later generally semi-dwarf or slower in vigor.
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3. Plants distinctly fastigiata to columnar.....4
 3. Plants subglobose to pyramidal or ovoid.....5
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4. Needles less than 3cm long, distinctly blue to bluish-green.....*Cedrus atlantica* 'Fastigiata', 'Glaucula Fastigiata', and clones
 4. Needles 3-6cm long, green, greyish, or bluish-green.....*Cedrus deodara*, columnar cultivars. Rarely do columnar *C. libani* appear in gardens
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5. Needles 0.5-3cm long.....6
 5. Needles 3-7 cm long; branches drooping at the tips.....9
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6. Flat-topped tree of 50-120 feet; branching stratified, tabuliform, rigid, tips straight; female strobili 10-12cm long; needle width not equaling thickness.....7
 6. Round-topped tree of 30-60 feet; branching when stratified, not rigid and slightly drooping; female strobili 8-10cm long; needles as thick as wide.....8

NOTE: Selection 8 = *C. atlantica* may or may not have more pubescence than choice 7 = *C. libani*. This is a very variable trait and only mentioned here as a minor clue of occasional value. Pubescence is mentioned in some keys yet in garden taxonomy at least it proves doubtful to useless at times. A alleged hybrid of these two species, *C. atlantica* and *C. libani*, with intermediate traits is known as *C. x intermedia* Senecl. Some taxonomists regard them as subspecies of a single species but regardless of their position, they must be separated for labeling and documentation purposes. If one has a garden plant that is rich glaucous blue,

silvery or frosty in new growth it will be *C. atlantica* f. *glauca* nearly 100% of the time; being such a widely distributed, important botanical form.

7. Small tree or shrub of 5-10m; needles much reduced, 0.5-1.0cm long.....*C. libani* var. *brevifolia* (*Cedrus brevifolia*)

7. Tree much exceeding 10m; needles 1.0-3.0cm long.....*C. libani* var. *libani*, including hardier var. *stenocoma*

8. Leaves distinctly glaucous, frosty blue to silvery-blue.....*C. atlantica* f. *glauca*

8. Leaves green to slightly bluish-green, or grayish-green.....*C. atlantica* f. *atlantica*

9. Leaves distinctly yellow or white at first.....10

9. Leaves green to bluish-green in new growth.....*C. deodara*

10. New growth white becoming green to bluish-green.....*C. deodara* 'Albospica' and other clones

10. New growth very yellow to near gold.....*C. deodara* 'Aurea' and other clones

