Taxodium distichum

Bald Cypress, southern-cypress, white-cypress, tidewater red-cypress, Gulf-cypress, red-cypress, swamp cypress



Taxodium distichum (swamp cypress) is a large, deciduous conifer from the South-Eastern United States. The swamp cypress grows on river floodplains, in wetlands and other moist habitats, along with *Acer rubrum, Magnolia grandiflora, Nyssa sylvatica* and *Liquidambar styraciflua*. *Taxodium distichum* was first described by Louis Claude Richard, a French botanist, in 1810. The swamp cypress grows to approximately 30 metres tall and develops a beautiful pyramidal crown up to twelve metres wide.

In the spring new foliage buds light green with small needles arranged on short shoots. The needles turn green in summer and an amazing russet-brown in autumn. This conifer is deciduous and the needles drop in late autumn, forming a halo around the trunk. *Taxodium distichum* develops a single stem with red-brown or brown-grey split bark, peeling in long fibres. The straight stems are broader on the underside and form buttress roots. The roots support their underwater root system with so-called 'knees' or pneumatophores. The knees are quite remarkable looking organs which make this tree even more unique. They can grow up to a metre tall.

Taxodium distichum is an exceptional aesthetic tree that is very reliable and has many uses and also very long-lived. All soil types, wet and dry are suitable, to the exclusion of very alkaline soils. The swamp cypress likes growing in a sunny site. Wind, heat and drought are no problem. It is, therefore, a true tree of the future with many uses. From (broad) streets to wadis, parks and gardens.

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, feathered trees, multi-stemmed trees, characteristic trees, conifers, woodland planting stock | **Topiary on stem**: beehive, block, multi-stem umbrella

USE

Location: avenue, car park / parking lot, park, central reservation, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, bioswale | **Pavement**: none, open, sealed

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: pyramidal | **Crown structure**: semi-open | **Height**: 18 - 30 m | **Width**: 6 - 12 m | **Winter hardiness zone**: 6A - 10B

ASPECTS

Wind: tolerant to wind, slightly tolerant to coastal wind | **Soil**: loess, sabulous clay, peaty, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil, all soils | **Nutrient level**: low in nutrients, moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level**: dry, moist, wet, very wet | **Light requirements**: sun | **pH range**: acidic, neutral | **Extreme environments**: tolerant to dryness, tolerates air pollution, tolerates heat, tolerant to short-term flooding

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: discrete, small | **Flower colour**: green | **Flowering period**: March - April | **Leaf colour**: bright green, buds pale green | **Leaves**: deciduous, needles or scales, short needles | **Autumn colour**: yellow-orange, orange, red-brown | **Fruits**: discrete, small, cones | **Fruit colour**: brown, green | **Bark colour**: grey-brown, red-brown | **Bark**: peeling, furrowed, spiral | **Twig colour**: red-brown | **Twigs**: vertical branches, pendulous | **Root system**: deep, tap root,

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