



## *Cedrus atlantica* 'Glauca Pendula' Weeping Atlas Cedar<sup>1</sup>

Edward F. Gilman and Dennis G. Watson<sup>2</sup>

### INTRODUCTION

A handsome evergreen for specimen planting where it will not be crowded since the tree looks its best when branches are left on the tree to the ground (Fig. 1). This shows off the wonderful weeping form with lower branches spreading about half the height. Spread, height and tree form is somewhat dependant on how the tree was trained. It can probably reach 30 to 40 feet tall if it was staked. Allow plenty of room for branches to spread. The tree is best located as a lawn specimen away from walks, streets, and sidewalks so branches will not have to be pruned. It looks odd if lower branches are removed. Older trees become flat-topped and are a beautiful sight to behold.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Scientific name:** *Cedrus atlantica* 'Glauca Pendula'

**Pronunciation:** SEE-drus at-LAN-tih-kuh

**Common name(s):** Weeping Atlas Cedar

**Family:** *Pinaceae*

**USDA hardiness zones:** 6 through 8 (Fig. 2)

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Uses:** Bonsai; specimen

**Availability:** grown in small quantities by a small number of nurseries

### DESCRIPTION

**Height:** 10 to 15 feet

**Spread:** 6 to 10 feet

**Crown uniformity:** irregular outline or silhouette

**Crown shape:** weeping

**Crown density:** moderate

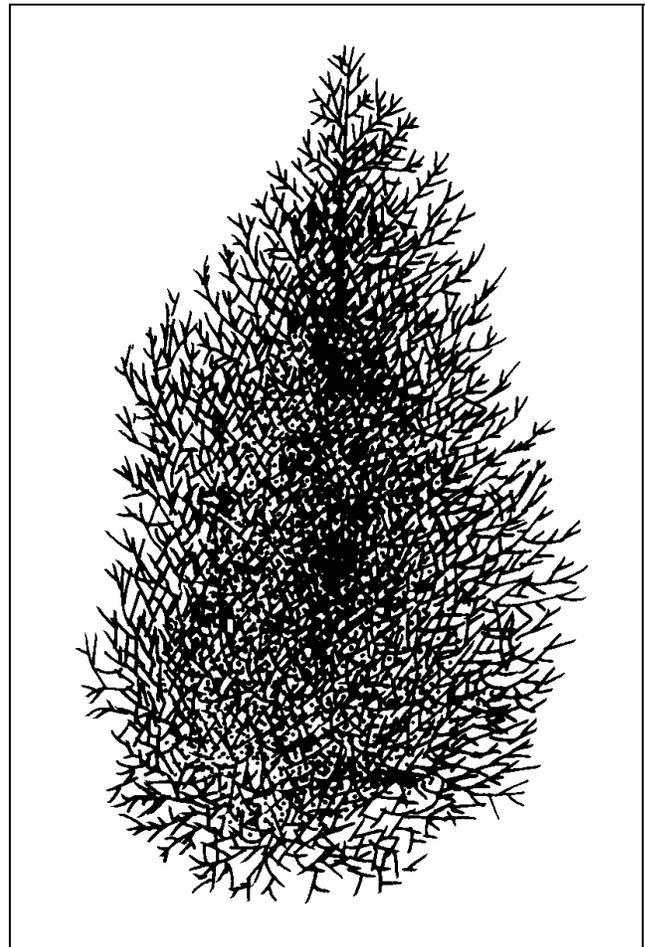


Figure 1. Young Weeping Atlas Cedar.

**Growth rate:** medium

**Texture:** fine

1. This document is adapted from Fact Sheet ST-132, a series of the Environmental Horticulture Department, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Publication date: November 1993.
2. Edward F. Gilman, associate professor, Environmental Horticulture Department; Dennis G. Watson, associate professor, Agricultural Engineering Department, Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville FL 32611.



Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

### Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** spiral (Fig. 3)

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire

**Leaf shape:** needle-like (filiform)

**Leaf venation:** parallel

**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen; needle leaf evergreen

**Leaf blade length:** less than 2 inches

**Leaf color:** blue or blue-green; green

**Fall color:** no fall color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

### Flower

**Flower characteristics:** inconspicuous and not showy; spring flowering

### Fruit

**Fruit shape:** oval

**Fruit length:** 3 to 6 inches

**Fruit covering:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** brown

**Fruit characteristics:** does not attract wildlife; no significant litter problem; showy

### Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** droop as the tree grows, and will require pruning for vehicular or pedestrian clearance beneath the canopy; not particularly showy; should be grown with a single leader; no thorns

**Pruning requirement:** requires pruning to develop strong structure

**Breakage:** resistant

**Current year twig color:** brown; green

**Current year twig thickness:** medium

### Culture

**Light requirement:** tree grows in part shade/part sun; tree grows in full sun

**Soil tolerances:** clay; loam; sand; slightly alkaline; acidic; well-drained

**Drought tolerance:** high

**Aerosol salt tolerance:** moderate

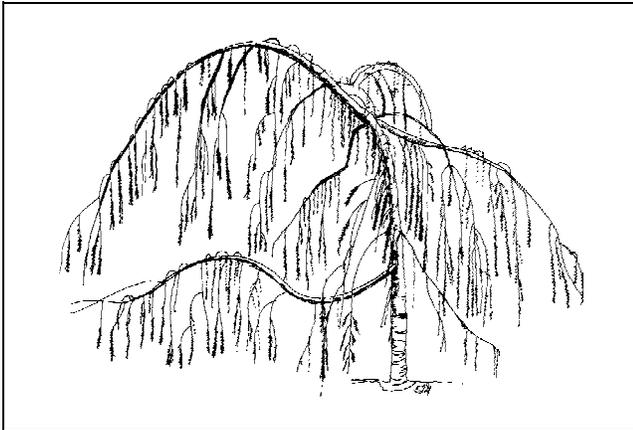


Figure 3. Foliage of Weeping Atlas Cedar.

root rots or black scale and the Deodar weevil. Usually no pest protection or control is necessary.

Sap-suckers are attracted to the trunk and often riddle it with small holes. This usually does little lasting harm to the tree.

### Other

**Roots:** surface roots are usually not a problem

**Winter interest:** no special winter interest

**Outstanding tree:** tree has outstanding ornamental features and could be planted more

**Invasive potential:** little, if any, potential at this time

**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** not known to be susceptible

**Pest resistance:** no pests are normally seen on the tree

## USE AND MANAGEMENT

Difficult to transplant, it should be moved as a container plant. Soil preference is for well-drained deep loam, on the acid side, but it can tolerate sandy or clay soils, if they are well-drained. The tree looks its best when it sheltered from strong wind. The tree looks its best when sheltered from strong winds but tolerates open conditions, and will grow in full sun or partial shade. Allow for plenty of soil space around the tree since growth will be poor in restricted soil space. Tolerates extensive drought only when grown in an area where roots can explore a large soil area. Performs well in all areas within its hardiness range. It is suitable in zone 9 in California and perhaps in Florida.

Cultivars: Two other especially desirable cultivars are *Cedrus atlantica* 'Pendula', a weeping form, and *Cedrus atlantica* 'Argentea', having beautiful silver-blue foliage.

### Pests

Generally free of insect pests and resistant to diseases, they may occasionally fall prey to tip blight,