

Caudata Camellia



As a shrub, it is ideal for use as a hedge or background plant, in groupings, and is especially nice as espalier (trained to grow flat against a wall.) As this one grows taller, lower branches can be removed to form a small tree that serves well as an attractive and colorful specimen in landscape borders and home foundation plantings. Great for cottage gardens, cut flower gardens and woodland borders.

Camellia caudata var. *caudata*

- **Use:** This is a very rare specimen from South China. A good choice for the collector of unusual plants. The glossy dark green foliage provides amazing contrast and a wonderful backdrop for the beautiful flowers. Can be grown as a large shrub for a specimen, in groupings or as a hedge or lower branches can be removed to form a highly attractive small evergreen tree.
- **Exposure:** In general, Camellia grows and blooms better in partial shade with some shelter from the hot afternoon sun. Morning sun with afternoon shade or filtered sunlight is perfect. All-day filtered sun is fine. Adapts well to various soil types however prefer a moist but well-drained acidic soil that is rich in organic matter. Constantly soggy soil is a slow killer.
- **Growth:** A vigorous Camellia with an upright habit of growth to 8 to 12 (possibly taller over many decades) feet tall and 6 to 8 feet wide, it can be grown as a shrub or small tree. Space plants 5-7' apart to grow them as a hedge. (12' apart as freestanding shrubs) A light trim after flowering will help keep it tight, but if a shrub gets out of hand then they will tolerate a harder pruning back.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 8-10; Shrub Protection from very cold winters needed by situating near a building wall can be helpful.
- **Foliage:** Evergreen. Shiny, rich dark green long tipped eaves.
- **Flower:** Numerous small to medium sized flowers with 5-7 white petals that blush light pink and yellow stamens. Flowering October to January.

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