



Washington Association Of Conservation Districts

## PLANT MATERIAL CENTER

16564 Bradley Road, Bow WA 98232

Phone (360) 757-1094 • Fax (360) 757-3923 • e-mail: pmcsales@clearwire.net

---

### **DAWN REDWOOD**

#### ***Metasequoia glyptostroboides***

**Distribution:**

A deciduous conifer native to central China and is fast becoming a favorite North American ornamental.

**Growth Habit:**

It grows in a full pyramidal shape up to 120' high and 25' spread. It is one of the few cone-bearing deciduous trees. In the fall the needles turn a bright copper color. The needles are bright green, about 1/2" long and soft. It is Unisexual, having both male and female flowers on the same tree. The cones contain about 5-9 winged seeds and are about 1" in size. The cones ripen in early December and shed the seeds shortly afterward.

**Adaptability:**

The Dawn Redwood is a hardy tree growing in such diverse climates as Maine, Alabama, and California. The average seed germinates in 5 days. It transplants easily and can be grown from cuttings. When planting keep in mind this deciduous conifer prefers moist, well-drained soils and full sun. This species is an excellent ornamental and good for screening.

**Comments:**

Also called Water Larch the Dawn Redwood has been called "a living fossil" because it was first discovered in Japan by Miki in 1941, then found growing in the wild in China. The species is over 50 million years old. It is a member of the *Taxodiaceae* (Redwood) family, which includes the Baldcypress. The genus name comes from the Greek word *meta* (meaning together or near) and *Sequoia* because of botanical similarities with the Giant Sequoia and Redwood. It was introduced to the United States and Europe around 1948.

