

Bermuda juniper

Juniperus bermudiana L.

Cypress family (Cupressaceae)

Post-Cook introduction

Small to medium-sized introduced evergreen tree with small scalelike leaves. Trunk straight, with many branches in compact cone-shaped crown to 40 ft (12 m) high. Bark brown, furrowed into scaly ridges and peeling. Inner bark with dead brown outer layer, whitish, fibrous, resinous. Twigs four-angled, stout, more than $\frac{1}{16}$ inch (1.5 mm) wide.

Leaves paired, scalelike, overlapping in four rows against twig, blunt-pointed, $\frac{1}{16}$ inch (1.5 mm) or more in length, with groove along back, gray green. Leaves on young plants in groups of 3, awl-shaped, to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (13 mm) long, those on older twigs in groups of 2, 3-angled, pointed, to $\frac{3}{16}$ inch (5 mm) long.

Trees male and female, the male (pollen-bearing) cones cylindrical, about $\frac{3}{16}$ inch (5 mm) long. Female (seed-bearing) cones berrylike, rounded or slightly two-lobed, about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6 mm) long, whitish blue, composed of few united scales, maturing in 1 year. Seeds 2–3, egg-shaped, pointed, shiny brown, grooved.

Sapwood is yellowish white, and the heartwood reddish brown. This wood is fine-textured, aromatic, of low density, and durable. Used for furniture, cabinetmaking, and shipbuilding in other parts of the world, but not used in Hawaii.

In Hawaii, Bermuda juniper is grown as an ornamental and in hedges. It is also planted in the Forest Reserves on a small scale. Between 1921 and 1953, 6500 trees were planted in the forests on all islands. Examples may be seen at Waiahole, Oahu, Waiahou Spring Reserve (Olinda), Maui, and Pepeekeo Arboretum, Hawaii. This subtropical species is not hardy northward in temperate regions.

Champion

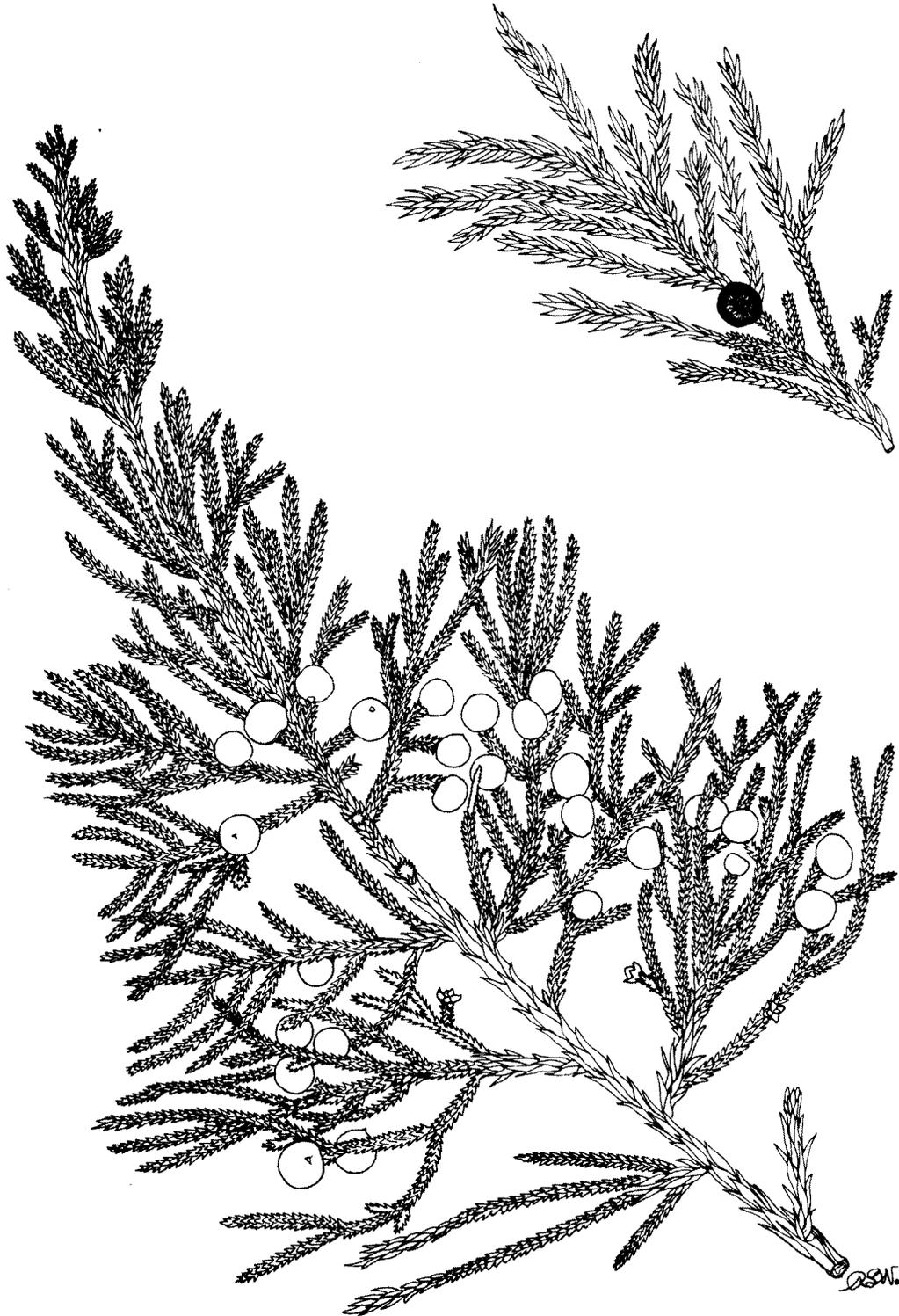
Height 72 ft (21.9 m), c.b.h. 6.9 ft (2.1 m), spread 56 ft (17.1 m). Kainaliu, North Kona, Hawaii (1968).

Range

Native only to the island of Bermuda. Formerly abundant there, but now rare because of a disease as well as cutting.

Other common names

Bermuda redcedar, Bermuda cedar



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Twigs with cones, 1 X.