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6. SEQUOIADENDRON J. Buchholz, Amer. J. Bot. 26: 536. 1939.

巨杉属 ju shan shu

Wellingtonia Lindley (1853), not C. F. W. Meissner (1840).

Trees evergreen, tall and massive, very long lived, monoecious; winter buds small, with bud scales. Leaves spirally arranged, sessile, appressed to branchlets or ± radially spreading, all scalelike, ovate to lanceolate, flat adaxially, convex abaxially, stomatal lines present on both surfaces, resin canal central. Pollen cones solitary at apex of short branchlets, sessile. Seed cones terminal, pendulous, pedunculate, elliptic, ripening in autumn of 2nd year, persistent on tree for many years; ovules 3–12 per bract axil, erect; cone scales shield-shaped, woody when mature, apically grooved. Seeds 3–9 per cone scale, in 1 or 2 rows, flattened, with 2 lateral wings broader than body of seed. Cotyledons (3 or)4(or 5). 2*n* = 22.
One species: United States; introduced in China.

1. Sequoiadendron giganteum (Lindley) J. Buchholz, Amer. J. Bot. 26: 536. 1939.

巨杉 ju shan

Wellingtonia gigantea Lindley, Gard. Chron. 1853: 823. 1853; *Sequoia gigantea* (Lindley) Decaisne (1854), not Endlicher (1847).

Trees to 90 m tall; trunk strongly buttressed at base, to 12 m d.b.h.; bark brown, spongy, deeply fissured and finally separating into cinnamon-colored fibers; crown conical when young, becoming open with age; branches of young trees spreading, on older trees drooping; axis of branchlets green or dark green in 1st year, thereafter pale brown to reddish brown. Leaves blue-green, base decurrent, distal free portion 3–5 mm, apex sharply pointed. Seed cones ellipsoid, 5–8 × 3–5.5 cm; cone scales shieldlike, ca. 2.5 cm, apical scales 6–10 mm wide, with distal groove, ending in a long, terete spine at middle when young. Seeds pale brown, elongate-ellipsoid, 3–6 mm.

Cultivated. Shandong, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Zhejiang (Hangzhou Shi) [native to W United States].

In the wild, this tree can reach an age of 3500 years.

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