



# CHRISTENSEN'S PLANT CENTER

## Wholesale Supplier To Landscape Professionals

### HIDDEN CPC JEWELS

July and August here at the nursery are sometimes referred to as "maintenance months", meaning we're cleaning up the blocks, doing a little trimming here and there, ripping out weeds, grading and labeling plant material, and enhancing our sunburns. While all this seems to be monotonous after the first week, it gives us a chance to take a good look around and see what we still have in stock that we forgot about earlier in the Spring.

Kentucky Coffeetree 'Espresso'. I had NO idea that we had these here this year.



Normally, a 2" Coffeetree doesn't look like much, these on the other hand are very nice! They get 50' high, 35' wide, solid zone 4 hardiness, has green foliage with a hint of blue spring and summer, and has yellow fall color.

Liriodendron Tulipifera 'Arnold'. The infamous columnar Tuliptree! We've carried these in the past, and I gotta say that the 2 1/2" and 3" caliper 'Arnold's' that we have this year have a GENEROUS grade! This is a spectacular impact tree that you can actually plant relatively close to a house. 50' tall, but only 8-10' wide at maturity. This is an excellent alternative to columnar hornbeam without having to worry about it engulfing the corner of a home.

Catalpa speciosa. Yep, we have some out there! I saw these earlier in the Spring, and they have held up beautifully with all the high heat we've had over the past couple weeks. Rapid growth rate, has HUGE leaves once they get rolling, blooms in May-June. Unlike the 'Arnold' Tuliptree stated above, do not, under any circumstances, plant this directly near a home and/or structure. Catalpa gets a good 50' tall on average and about 30' wide, but I have seen these bigger than that.



I gotta do one more: 'State Street' Maple. If your customer is looking for a Norway Maple and you just can't find a decent one anywhere, I definitely recommend taking this tree into consideration. It gets 50' high, 35' wide at maturity, gold/yellow fall color, fast growth rate, zone 4 hardiness, and the bark is similar to that of a hedge maple.



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[\*\*\*Return to Archive\*\*\*](#)

There are many other hidden gems to be found out here around the nursery, like 'Eskimo Sunset' maples, Hepticodiums, and Fullmoon maples to name a few. So, if you get some free time and happen to be in the neighborhood, swing by for a cup of coffee, listen to our usual banter amongst CPC employees (entertainment is always free here), and take a lap around the nursery, you never know what you may find!

Dave

