

PURPLE SMOKE TREE



COTINUS COGGYGRIA 'ATROPURPUREA'



A MULTI-STEMMED SMALL TREE OR LARGE SHRUB, PURPLE SMOKE TREE HAS ALL THE DARK-LEAVED DRAMA OF A RED BARBERRY (MINUS THE THORNS) BUT ON A MUCH LARGER SCALE. REACHING 12-15' HIGH AND WIDE, IT IS BOTH DROUGHT AND HEAT-TOLERANT, AND DOES JUST FINE AND EVEN THRIVES IN POOR, ROCKY SOIL WITH VERY LITTLE SUMMER IRRIGATION. THE UNIQUE TEXTURE OF THIS SPECIMEN PLANT IS A NATURAL FOCAL POINT, BUT THE SMOKE (TINY PINKISH BLOSSOMS SO FINE AND NUMEROUS THAT THEY RESEMBLE PUFFS OF SMOKE) IS A SHOW STEALER WHEN IT APPEARS IN LATE SPRING, ESPECIALLY WHERE IT IS BACKLIT BY THE SETTING SUN. FALL COLOR IS NICE, TOO, WITH ORANGES, REDS, AND YELLOWS. OFTEN (BUT NOT ALWAYS!) RESISTANT TO DEER BROWSING, BUT PROTECT YOUNG PLANTS WHERE DEER ARE NUMEROUS TO HELP GET THEM ESTABLISHED.

ZONES 4-10

SUN TO LIGHT SHADE