



# FACTSHEET 07

## Japanese Red Cedar

### 'Bregentved' (Selected stand)



#### KEY FACTS:

- **Species:** Cryptomeria japonica (Japanese red cedar)
- **Seed stand name and Location:** Bregentved, Denmark
- **Category:** Selected
- **Site suitability:** In the UK it is expected to require a warm, moist maritime climate such as Western Scotland, Wales and South Western England. Best growth has been observed on soils of poor to rich nutrient status with adequate moisture (areas of >1200mm annual rainfalls). Not suitable for peaty or dry sites and intolerant of heather competition.
- **Establishment:** There is limited UK experience of producing Japanese Red Cedar in mixed stands as the majority of stands are pure, even aged. However, planting as a mixture with DF and WRC may be possible due to its good tolerance of shade and rapid rate of growth. As a high volume producer, thinning is an essential to provide a sensible number of stems and to prevent thin, weak stems
- **Timber use, marketing and processing:** Due to its high natural durability it would be suitable for exterior applications such as cladding, & fencing. Early thinnings are suitable for the firewood market.

#### SUMMARY:

Introduced into Britain in 1879, the Japanese red cedar has demonstrated its ability to produce a yield that is comparable to other commonly used conifers in the UK such as Douglas Fir & Western red cedar. It's expansion into UK is likely to be in areas with a warm, moist maritime climate such as Western Scotland, Wales and South Western England.

There is limited experience of processing the timber in the UK but in its native range it is highly regarded as a major construction timber and is also often used in exterior, ground contact applications as the timber has good natural durability.



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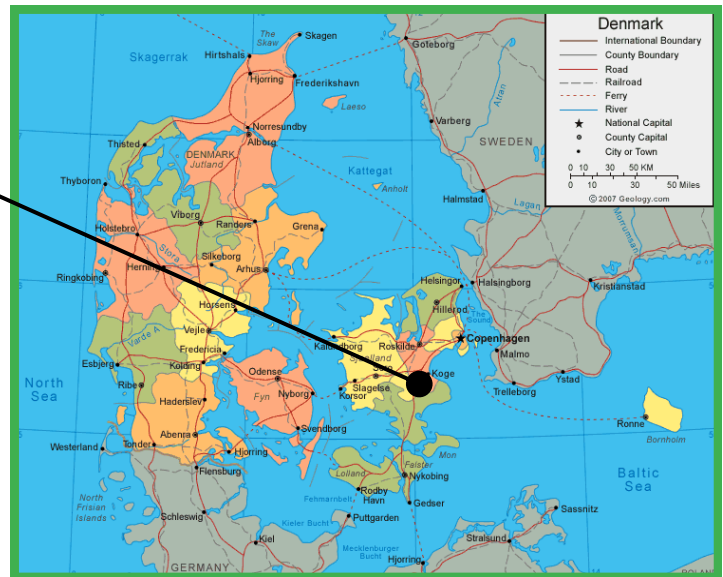


- The timber density of *Cryptomeria japonica* is 380kg m<sup>3</sup> at 15% moisture content. The heartwood is a warm reddish brown colour and the sapwood can either be greyish in colour or almost white.
- In its native range it occurs in the mountainous islands of south and central Japan that have high annual rainfall. To date, the best growth in Britain has been found in areas with more than 1200mm of annual rainfall that have a sheltered aspect.

## 'Bregentved' Stand Location

Our plants have been produced from seed collected in the 'Bregentved' forest which is located near Haslev on the Danish Island of Zealand.

In this example the 'Bregentved' forest is located approx 1 degree North of Edinburgh and 5 degrees North of London.



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#### References:

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- SAVILL, PETER S (2013) *The Silviculture of trees used in British forestry 2nd ed.*

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