

## WACD PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

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### Giant Sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*)

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#### Distribution

Giant Sequoia is not native to Washington but occurs naturally in a narrow belt along the west slope of the central Sierra Nevada Mountains.

#### Growth Habit

As the name implies, Giant Sequoia grows to become a large tree. The tallest specimen is the 'General Grant' tree in Kings Canyon National Park, which is 310 feet tall and its trunk is 347 inches in diameter at breast height.

#### Adaptability

Giant Sequoias have been grown in Washington for decades, with numerous large specimens and groves resulting. It requires ample sunlight and well-drained, moist soils in order to thrive. Excess shade, heavy wet soils, and insufficient moisture can result in death.

#### Comments

- Giant Sequoia is used primarily as an ornamental in the region.
- Its value as a timber tree for this region has been studied.
- There is an 80 year-old plantation in Belgium with trees that have grown rapidly and are becoming large.
- The oldest known Giant Sequoia is 3,500 years old.
- Worlds largest conifer is a Giant Sequoia.
- Can withstand heavy winds, which makes it a great candidate for windbreaks.

