

CUPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS L. (MEDITERRANEAN CYPRESS)



HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

In natural habitats, this cypress occurs in Mediterranean climates with dry and hot summers and rainy winters, or in semiarid climates in the eastern and inland areas of its range.

IMPORTANCE AND USAGE

Since ancient times its wood has been particularly appreciated for its resistance to fungi and insects, especially if immersed in water. The wood is suitable for small carpentry and ship building. More recently, thanks to its ecological qualities, this cypress has been used in forest protection against desertification and soil conservation in hot areas, where the soil is shallow and degraded and no other forest tree species could grow.

DISTRIBUTION

Today the distribution of this species comprises most of the Mediterranean basin and the Middle East.

