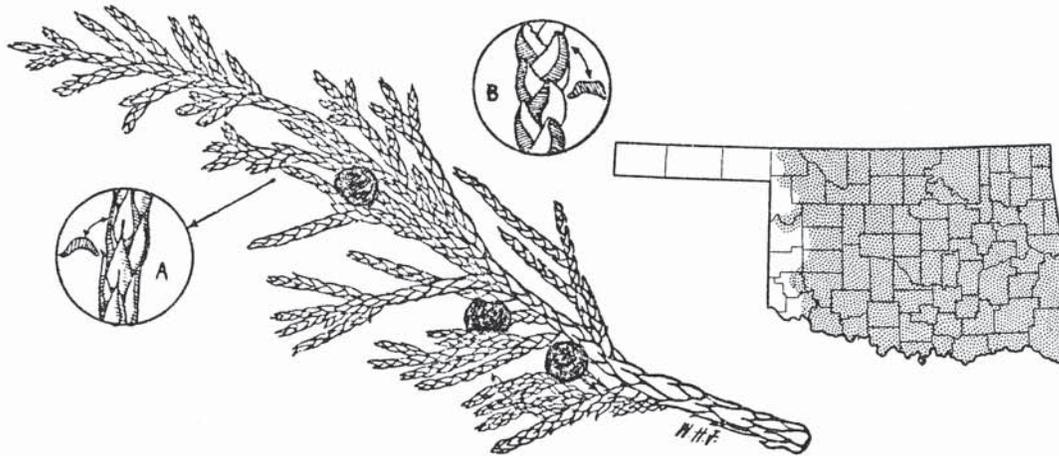


12. EASTERN REDCEDAR

Juniperus virginiana L.; juniper, redcedar, "cedar."

Small to medium-sized scaleleaf evergreen, aromatic tree 30 ft (9 m) high, with straight trunk 1½ ft (0.5 m) in diameter and pointed conical dense crown, becoming irregular. Twigs slender, gray, rough with bases of dead leaves.



Leaves paired or opposite in 4 rows forming slender 4-angled twigs, scalelike, $\frac{1}{16}$ in (1.5 mm) long, ending in long narrow sharp point, dark green, with gland dot, on leading shoots needlelike to $\frac{3}{8}$ in (1 cm).

Cones berrylike, $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$ in (6-10 mm) in diameter, dark blue with a bloom, soft, juicy, sweetish and resinous. Male cones on other trees, oblong, $\frac{1}{8}$ in (3 mm) long, pale yellow, producing pollen in early spring. Seeds 1-2, less than $\frac{1}{8}$ in (3 mm) long, pointed.

Bark reddish brown, thin, fibrous and shreddy.

Wood dark or purplish red turning to dull red or reddish brown, with thin whitish sapwood, nonporous, fine-textured, with pencil odor, moderately heavy (sp. gr. .44), hard, resistant to decay. Principal uses are fenceposts, cedar chests and wardrobes, cabinetwork, flooring, carvings, and novelties, formerly pencils.

Common and widespread, especially in rocky soils and on limestone outcrops, nearly through Okla. except panhandle. E. half of U.S. Zone 2.

Planted for shelterbelts and ornament. Small wild plants serve as Christmas trees. Special products are cedar-leaf oil for medicine and cedar-wood oil for medicine and perfumes.

The drawing shows the long-pointed scalelike leaves (A) enlarged and compared with the blunt leaves (B) of Ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*).