

Usually a large shrub, sometimes a small evergreen tree. The bushy crown starts out rounded but later the branches become more pendulous to form a broader crown. 'Red Robin' can be pruned without difficulty so that the final shape of the crown can be easily influenced. The evergreen leaves are leathery and glossy (the Greek word 'phôteinós' means glossy). The leaves emerge a light brownish-red in the spring but later turn to dark green and, in the autumn, the top leaves turn bordeaux red. This makes the tree a year-round attraction in the garden. Depending on how the tree is pruned, in the spring it produces flowers in large white umbels. These are followed by sturdy red berries that turn black. Root growth is fine and close to the surface. Because of the risk of frost damage the tree prefers a sheltered site. Is often planted in pots.