

# Loropetalum

## *Loropetalum chinensis rubrum*

This native of China, Japan, and the Himalayas makes a lovely addition to any landscape. Also known as chinese witch hazel or chinese fringe flower, loropetalum puts on a beautiful show in spring with small, frilly flowers. While some loropetalum plants do have green foliage, it is most commonly found with burgundy foliage that contrasts nicely with other plants. *Loropetalum chinensis rubrum* is a subspecies with bright pink flowers and attractively colored foliage. This member of the witch hazel family (Hamamelidaceae) does quite well in Florida in zones 8–10a. Although it is capable of growing to about 10 feet tall, most specimens are seen at about 5 to 6 feet with a rounded canopy. Dwarf cultivars are popular for both their smaller size and for creating mass plantings, as these types can be planted more closely together than other cultivars.

**Type:** perennial

**USDA hardiness zones:** 7 through 10A

**Uses:** screen; hedge; border; specimen; espalier

**Origin:** not native to Florida

**Height:** 6 to 15 feet      **Spread:** 8 to 10 feet

**Plant spacing:** 36 to 60 inches

**Light requirement:** part shade to part sun

**Soil tolerances:** slightly alkaline; clay; sand; acidic; loam

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Soil salt tolerances:** unknown

**Invasive potential:** not known to be invasive

**Pest resistance:** no serious pests are normally seen on the plant

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Photo: UF/ IFAS