

CERCIS 'Hearts of Gold'

Origin: Jon Roethling

Species: *Cercis canadensis*

Protection Status: US PP #17,740; COPF Open

Characteristics:

This is the first known, gold-foliaged *Cercis* for the U.S. Market. New leaves emerge red then turn to gold. Where leaves are shaded by others they will turn to green. '**Hearts of Gold**' offers a perfect way to brighten the grayest day and provides a riot of color in early spring as they flower even before foliage emerges. Its tiny lavender-purple redbud blooms are early harbingers of spring in the landscape. In summer, the gold foliage is burn-resistant even in full sun. A U.S. native, this gold redbud is as vigorous as green varieties and will grow to 10' in the first 5 years. At maturity it will reach 15' tall by 18' wide, making it perfect for hedges or as a specimen planting.

Hardiness: Zone 4 to 10, to be tested. Definitely 5 to 9.

Bloom: Clusters of sweet pea blooms, bright lavender purple, early spring.

Foliage: Intense golden color, heart-shaped. New growth is red, shaded leaves turn green.

Habit: Vase-shaped, pendulous.

Propagation: Semi-ripe cuttings. *License required for propagation.*

Culture: Well-drained soils in full sun or partial shade. Drought tolerant.

