



## U.S. National Arboretum Plant Introduction

### *Tsuga* ‘Crossroad’



**Botanical Name:** *Tsuga (caroliniana × chinensis)* ‘Crossroad’  
(NA 81167; PI-693240)

**Hardiness:** USDA Zones 6–7

**Development:** *Tsuga* ‘Crossroad’ originated from a controlled cross made in 1998 between *Tsuga caroliniana* (84-2069, female parent) at the Orland White Arboretum in Virginia and *T. chinensis* (NA 12347, male parent). The objective was to incorporate resistance to hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) from *T. chinensis* into an attractive landscape tree that resembles the native *Tsuga* species. ‘Crossroad’ showed resistance after artificial inoculation with HWA in both field and greenhouse trials.

**Significance:** ‘Crossroad’ is the second interspecific hybrid hemlock released to the trade. It was specifically bred for resistance to HWA and was selected for its symmetrical, upright habit. It has a modest growth rate and promises to be a valuable addition to residential, commercial, public, and possibly forest landscapes.

**Description:** **Height and width:** 36 feet tall and 18 feet wide after 15 years of field growth in Beltsville, MD  
**Habit:** Evergreen, symmetric pyramidal habit with ascending branches  
**Foliage:** Long, flat, narrow needles, similar to those of the parents, but longer than *T. canadensis*  
**Cones:** Few, large green cones develop in late summer, maturing and opening to light brown in October, each 0.9–1.5 inches long

**Propagation:** Rooting occurs over 8–24 weeks from cuttings taken in December/January using bottom heat, or early summer before the second growth flush using 3000–8000 ppm IBA or IBA+NAA under mist.

**Landscape Use:** Specimen tree in a large yard or park or an informal large screen; transplants well from containers.

**Availability:** Limited availability. Interested wholesale growers may contact [Susan.Bentz@usda.gov](mailto:Susan.Bentz@usda.gov) or [Margaret.Pooler@usda.gov](mailto:Margaret.Pooler@usda.gov).