

Enkianthus perulatus is a densely branched, medium-sized shrub that does not assume tree form even after many years and grows about 2-3 m high. The young twigs are reddish to brownish-red, the old bark is dark brown and smooth. The plant grows with two types of twigs; long twigs on which the leaves are scattered and short side shoots where the leaves are in whorls at the end of the shoots. The leaves are dark green and turn a brilliant yellow, orange to deep red for several weeks in autumn before falling off. In spring, drooping clusters of bell-shaped flowers appear under the unfurling leaves. The flowers are white and look like pearls among the just unfurling, dark green leaves. The brown, dry box fruits contain many dusty seeds and are not very conspicuous.

Enkianthus perulatus is a stately shrub that requires a well-drained acidic to neutral soil. On calcareous soils, the foliage will become chlorotic. Fine plant for use in parks, gardens and cemeteries.