

Acer campestre
Field maple



Acer campestre (field maple) is native to Europe, the west of Asia and North Africa. It is a tree of the second size class, around 12 metres tall and 7 to 8 metres wide. The crown grows irregularly and whimsically, which makes the species less suitable for urban planting. Pruning is tolerated very well, however, which means that various topiary shapes can be achieved.

The blossom of *Acer campestre* appears in April, at the same time as the leaves develop. The small, yellow-green flowers have the highest possible nectar and pollen score. Bees and other insects love them. After the blossom, the field maple bears winged fruits, known as samaras. They start small and red and by the autumn are large, striking and brown. The seed is a real delicacy, particularly for greenfinches and chaffinches. The beautiful, lobed leaf of the field maple is bronze-coloured as it emerges, green in the summer and turns a warm golden yellow in the autumn. The winter silhouette is characterised by the thick corky fissures on the twigs.

In landscape planting, lines of trees intended to act as a wind break and in coastal areas, the *Acer campestre* really comes into its own. It is a tough species, which can tolerate heat, drought and frost, strong sea winds and air pollution, deep shade, heavy pruning and road salt. Thanks to these characteristics, the field maple works extremely well as a hedge along roads and motorways, in industrial areas and along the coast. Or as a characteristic box tree or espalier screen in gardens and parks. But the field maple is an essential species in ecological planting schemes too. Prune the field maple during the growing season, pruning too early will cause bleeding.

SEASONAL COLOURS

jan feb mar apr mei jun jul aug sep okt nov dec

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, feathered trees, multi-stemmed trees, climate trees, trees for climbing, shade trees, characteristic trees, woodland planting stock | **Topiary on stem**: multi-stem umbrella | **Topiary**: beehive, globe, block, column, hedge, hedge element, pleached, bonsai

USE

Location: avenue, park, central reservation, in containers, roof garden, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, countryside, ecological zone, windbreak, coastal area | **Pavement**: none, open | **Planting concepts**: Climate planting, Eco planting, Landscape planting, Solid planting, shade-tolerant, urban planting

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: egg-shaped | **Crown structure**: dense | **Height**: 10 - 12 m | **Width**: 7 - 8 m | **Winter hardiness zone**: 5A - 9A

ASPECTS

Wind: tolerant to wind, tolerant to coastal wind | **Soil**: loess, sabulous clay, peaty, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil, all soils | **Nutrient level**: low in nutrients, moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level**: moist, wet | **Light requirements**: sun, partial shade, shade | **pH range**: acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant**: bees, butterflies, birds, nectar value 5, pollen value 5 | **Extreme environments**: tolerant to salt spray, tolerant to dryness, tolerates air pollution, tolerates heat

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: corymbose, discrete, standing | **Flower colour**: yellow-green | **Flowering period**: April - May | **Leaf colour**: buds bronze, green | **Leaves**: deciduous, palmate, lobate | **Autumn colour**: golden yellow | **Fruits**: striking, winged | **Fruit colour**: brown | **Bark colour**: grey-brown | **Bark**: corky | **Twig colour**: grey-brown | **Twigs**: corky | **Root system**: deep, shallow, highly branched, many hair roots, central root