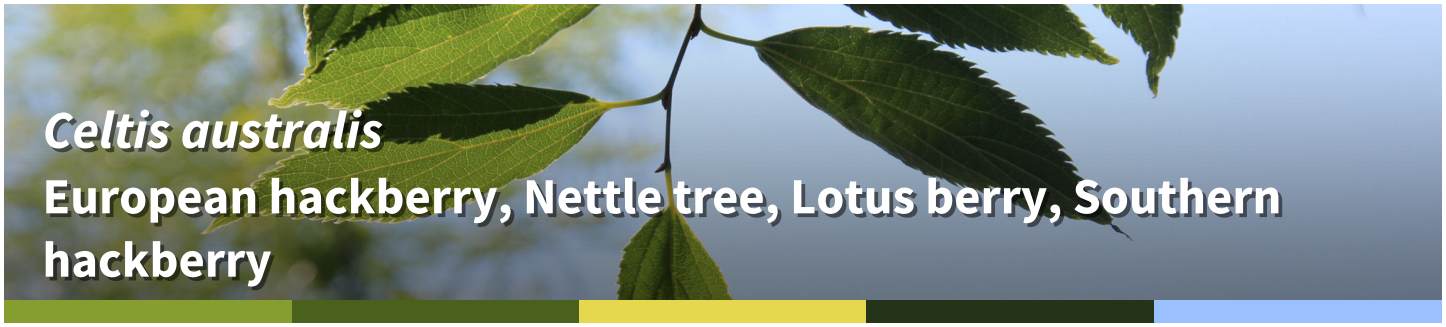


Celtis australis
European hackberry, Nettle tree, Lotus berry, Southern hackberry



Celtis australis (European hackberry, nettle tree) naturally occurs in South Europe and in North and West Africa. The tree was introduced in England in 1796 and from there, it was distributed via botanical gardens. It is a very strong – often multi-stem – grower, reaching heights up to 30 metres in its original distribution area, with a wide rounded to umbel-shaped crown. In cultivation, its height is usually limited to 20 metres.

The European hackberry blooms in April with single, stellate white-green flowers. These are discrete, but are quickly found by bees because of their high nectar and pollen value. The egg-shaped, lanceolate, rough leaves are dark green with a grey-green underside. In autumn, the leaves are yellow and the tree bears dark red, edible little stone fruits.

The nettle tree can be used in many locations, such as streets, parks and central reservations, in cemeteries, squares and industrial locations, and in ecological zones. The tree can easily tolerate pavement and is very good at tolerating heat and drought. At a young age, the nettle tree is not entirely winter hardy, which can lead to slight damage to the twigs. However, the tree will quickly recover from this. *Celtis australis* has few soil requirements. Plant the tree in a sunny environment for the best growth.

SEASONAL COLOURS



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

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, multi-stemmed trees | **Topiary on stem**: vase, multi-stem umbrella

USE

Location: street, avenue, square, park, central reservation, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, ecological zone | **Pavement**: none, open, sealed | **Planting concepts**: Eco planting, urban planting

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: rounded | **Crown structure**: semi-open | **Height**: 15 - 20 m | **Width**: 10 - 15 m | **Winter hardiness zone**: 6B - 9A

ASPECTS

Wind: tolerant to wind | **Soil**: loess, sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level**: low in nutrients, moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level**: dry, moist | **Light requirements**: sun, partial shade | **pH range**: acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant**: bees, butterflies, birds, small mammals | **Extreme environments**: tolerant to dryness, tolerates air pollution, tolerates heat

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: star-shaped, discrete, singular | **Flower colour**: white-green | **Flowering period**: April - May | **Leaf colour**: dark green, underside grey-green | **Leaves**: deciduous, ovate, lanceolate, rough, underside hairy, serrate | **Autumn colour**: yellow | **Fruits**: edible, small, drupe | **Fruit colour**: dark red, blue-black | **Bark colour**: grey | **Bark**: smooth, later on rough | **Twig colour**: grey-brown, grey-green | **Twigs**: hairy, bare, zigzagging, pendulous | **Root system**: deep, extensive, highly branched, coarse roots