

# *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Applause'

## Autumn Applause White Ash



*Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Applause' (White ash 'Autumn Applause', synonym *Fraxinus americana* 'Appldell') was selected in 1975 by Wandell's Nursery of Urbana, USA, where the tree stood out on account of its magnificent purple-red autumn foliage. Cultivar 'Autumn Applause' grows more slowly than the species, has denser branches, with a more upright oval crown shape and remains slightly smaller and narrower than the other cultivars. However, *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Applause' is still a quick-growing, fairly large tree with an ultimate height of twelve metres, and seven to eight metres wide.

The dark green emerging, compound leaf of 'Autumn Applause' has a grey-white underside and is smaller and smoother than that of the selection 'Autumn Purple'. The autumn colour appears very early on and puts on a stunning display in deep shades of chestnut-red to dark violet; the leaf falls quite early from the tree once it has changed colour. *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Applause' has lighter, less conspicuous and later emerging winter buds than *Fraxinus excelsior*. At the end of April or early May 'Autumn Applause' produces insignificant purple-green catkins; the selection is male and so does not bear any seeds. Juvenile trees have smooth stems which are sensitive to sunburn but with maturity *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Applause' acquires a deeply grooved trunk with heavy, grey-brown branches.

*Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Applause' prefers moist, acid soils but adapts to most soils and levels of acidity and also tolerates dry soils. The selection tolerates semi-paved areas and salt spray and thanks to its deep taproot the tree has a firm anchor which also makes it wind-resistant. 'Autumn Applause' is very suitable for broad avenues and streets but also as a park tree for spacious growing sites. *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Applause' has so far shown little or no effect from ash dieback.

### TYPES OF PLANTING

**Tree types:** standard trees, multi-stemmed trees

### USE

**Location:** street, avenue, car park / parking lot, park, central reservation, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, countryside | **Pavement:** none, open

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** ovoid | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 10 - 12 m | **Width:** 7 - 8 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 4A - 9B

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** tolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** dry, moist, wet | **Light requirements:** sun, partial shade | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to salt spray

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** catkins, discrete | **Flower colour:** green | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** dark green, underside white-grey | **Leaves:** deciduous, lanceolate, underside hairy, serrate, pinnate, composite | **Autumn colour:** yellow, orange-red, bronze-red, violet, dark violet | **Fruits:** no fruit | **Bark colour:** grey-brown | **Bark:** deeply furrowed, smooth | **Twig colour:** grey-brown | **Twigs:** bare, vertical branches, thickly branched | **Root system:** deep, shallow, extensive, tap root

