

# Fraxinus americana 'Autumn Purple'

## Autumn Purple White Ash



*Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Purple' (White ash 'Autumn purple', synonym *Fraxinus americana* 'Junginger') was introduced in 1956 by nurseryman Karl Junginger from Mc Kay nursery of Waterloo, USA. The tree grows quickly and as a juvenile forms a pyramidal crown with rounded top which later becomes a broadly oval round shape. Cultivar 'Autumn Purple' has denser branching than the species, with a more upright oval crown form, grows more slowly and - apart from cultivar 'Autumn Applause' - remains slightly smaller and narrower than the other cultivars. *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Purple' reaches a height of fifteen to eighteen metres, between ten and twelve metres wide and is considered as the most popular cultivar of *Fraxinus americana*.

The leaf of *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Purple' is bright green with a white-grey underside and has a coarse structure. The autumn colour - depending on site, amount of moisture and heat - changes every year and comes in a wonderful array of yellow, orange, red and violet shades. In April, 'Autumn Purple' bears inconspicuous catkins which change from green to dark violet; the selection is male and so no seeds are formed. *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Purple' has a deeply grooved and smooth, grey-brown bark and vertical, heavily branched, olive-green shoots.

*Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Purple' grows best on moist, nutrient-rich, well-drained soils but adapts to most soils and levels of acidity and also tolerates drier soils. As a real light lover, the selection prefers a position in full sun. 'Autumn Purple' is especially attractive in open beds or green verges as a street or avenue tree and tends to branch out nicely for generous road lay-outs. In addition, the selection is magnificent in gardens and parks and - because it lacks seeds - is also ideally suited for parking areas. *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Applause' has so far shown little or no effect from ash dieback.

### SEASONAL COLOURS



### TYPES OF PLANTING

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

### USE

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

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** wide oval, pyramidal | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 15 - 18 m | **Width:** 10 - 12 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:** dark violet, green | **Flowering period:** April - April | **Leaf colour:** bright green, underside white-grey | **Leaves:** deciduous, ovate, underside hairy, serrate, pinnate, composite | **Autumn colour:** yellow, yellow-orange, orange, orange-red, red-violet, dark violet | **Fruits:** no fruit | **Bark colour:** grey-brown | **Bark:** deeply furrowed, smooth | **Twig colour:** olive green | **Twigs:** bare, vertical branches, thickly branched | **Root system:** deep, shallow, extensive, tap root