

Hamamelis x intermedia

Witch hazel



Hamamelis x intermedia (witch hazel) is a cross between *Hamamelis japonica* and *Hamamelis mollis*, which was developed around 1935, at more or less the same time in the Arnold Arboretum, the United States, the Charlottenlund Botanic Gardens, Denmark, the Kalmthout Arboretum, Belgium and by Heinrich Bruns, Germany. Both parents contribute to the ornamental value of this witch hazel: a rich blossom with relatively large flowers that produce a pleasant fragrance. The slowly growing shrub has a vase-shaped habit and can develop to be four metres tall and wide. There are many different cultivars available, which have a variety of flower colours and autumn colouring.

Hamamelis x intermedia is an eye-catcher in the winter, when the delicate, yellow flowers open. The flowers curl up in cold and harsh weather, but do not freeze. The summer leaves on this witch hazel are large and dark green, in this season, the species does not have a striking appearance. But, in the autumn, the shrub is an eye-catcher once again, with leaves that turn a deep orange-red.

Hamamelis x intermedia prefers to be planted in a sunny location, sheltered from the wind, in an open, moist and acidic soil, rich in nutrients. For the first year after planting, a *Hamamelis* must absolutely not be allowed to dry out. Place the shrub in a solitary place, possibly with low shrubs or perennials at its foot. The witch hazel can be pruned to a very limited extent after the blossom in March. You should mainly prune the rising shoots from the rootstock and the dead wood. If further pruning is necessary, only prune twigs that are the thickness of a pencil.

SEASONAL COLOURS



TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: solitary shrubs | **Topiary on stem:** multi-stem umbrella

USE

Location: park, central reservation, large garden, small garden, cemetery | **Pavement:** none

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: wide vase-shaped | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 3 - 4 m | **Width:** 3 - 4 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 6B - 9B

ASPECTS

Wind: slightly tolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, peaty, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil, all soils | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** moist | **Light requirements:** sun | **pH range:** acidic (4.5 - 7.0) | **Host plant/forage plant:** bees, butterflies, nectar value 1, pollen value 1

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: heads, striking, singular, scented | **Flower colour:** yellow | **Flowering period:** January - February | **Leaf colour:** dark green | **Leaves:** deciduous, obovate, rough, underside hairy | **Autumn colour:** orange-red | **Fruits:** small, nut | **Fruit colour:** brown | **Bark colour:** pale brown | **Bark:** smooth | **Twig colour:** brown | **Twigs:** bare | **Root system:** deep, shallow, coarse roots, tap root