

# Hamamelis mollis

## Chinese witch Hazel



*Hamamelis mollis* (Chinese witch hazel) is naturally found on the forested mountain slopes of Central and Eastern China. It is a shrub with yellow blossom and a highly spreading, wide vase-shaped habit, up to three metres tall and wide in cultivation. The leaves and twigs of the Chinese witch hazel are slightly hairy and remain so, in contrast to other witch hazels.

*Hamamelis mollis* is a witch hazel with beautiful, small, yellow flowers that have a wonderful fragrance. The shrub blossoms in January and February, but in mild winters the flowers may open as early as December. The blossom stops when it freezes and continues after the frost. Although all witch hazels produce pollen for bumblebees and other types of bee, it is often too cold during the blossom period and bees are not yet flying. The Chinese witch hazel has larger leaves than other varieties and a beautiful, yellow-orange autumn colour.

*Hamamelis mollis* likes a location in the full sun or light shade in an acidic and moist soil. The shrub thrives in all soil types, as long as the soil is nutrient rich and has good permeability. For the first year after planting, a *Hamamelis* must absolutely not be allowed to dry out. Prune as little as possible, the Chinese witch hazel grows slowly and already has a beautiful natural shape. 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, patio, cemetery | **Pavement:** none

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** wide vase-shaped | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 2 - 3 m | **Width:** 2 - 3 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:** matt green | **Leaves:** deciduous, obovate, rough, hairy, underside hairy | **Autumn colour:** yellow-orange, orange-red | **Fruits:** discrete, small, nut | **Fruit colour:** brown | **Bark colour:** grey-brown | **Bark:** smooth | **Twig colour:** grey-brown | **Twigs:** hairy | **Root system:** deep, shallow, coarse roots, tap root