

Liquidambar styraciflua 'Paarl'
American sweetgum 'Paarl', sweet gum 'Paarl', star-leaved gum 'Paarl'



Liquidambar styraciflua ‘Paarl’ (American sweetgum ‘Paarl’) was selected by Lappen Nurseries in Paarl, South Africa in 1990. The tree grows to be 20 metres tall and has strong, vertical branches, creating an upright columnar to narrow pyramidal crown. When it is older, the branches start to droop, which is likely due to its rich fruit production.

The American sweetgum ‘Paarl’ blooms discrete, yellow-green flower heads in April. The thick, pentalobate leather-like leaves bud bronze and turn a dark green with yellow veins in summer. Its autumn colours appear quite late in autumn. Depending on its environment, its autumn leaves are a lovely gradient from dark yellow to yellow-orange and from orange-red to green-violet. The spiky brown capsules the tree produces in autumn are small, but striking. In contrast to the main species, *Liquidambar styraciflua* ‘Paarl’ does not grow cork on the trunk and branches.

Its thin habit and solid wind tolerance make the ‘Paarl’ cultivar a great tree for streets and avenues. It can handle pavement and air pollution very well, which makes the selection perfect for use in industrial locations. The tree’s abundant fruit production can be seen as a downside in some locations. *Liquidambar styraciflua* ‘Paarl’ does best in nutrient-rich, moist soil with an acidic to neutral pH value. Plant the tree in a sunny environment for the most beautiful autumn colours.

TYPES OF PLANTING
Tree types: standard trees, feathered trees

USE
Location: street, avenue, square, park, central reservation, large garden, cemetery | **Pavement**: none, open, sealed | **Planting concepts**: Climate planting

CHARACTERISTICS
Crown shape: columnar, narrow pyramidal | **Crown structure**: semi-open | **Height**: 15 - 20 m | **Width**: 3 - 4 m | **Winter hardiness zone**: 5B - 10B

ASPECTS
Wind: tolerant to wind | **Soil**: loess, sabulous clay, peaty, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level**: moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level**: moist, wet | **Light requirements**: sun | **pH range**: acidic, neutral (4.5 - 7.5) | **Extreme environments**: tolerates air pollution

PLANTKENMERKEN
Flowers: spikes, heads, discrete | **Flower colour**: yellow-green | **Flowering period**: April - May | **Leaf colour**: buds bronze, dark green | **Leaves**: deciduous, palmate, thick, leathery , polished, serrate, lobate | **Autumn colour**: dark yellow, yellow-orange, yellow-green, violet | **Fruits**: striking, rich fruit yield, small, capsule, spiny nut | **Fruit colour**: brown | **Bark colour**: grey | **Bark**: deeply furrowed | **Twig colour**: yellow-green, red-brown | **Twigs**: bare, vertical branches, pendulous, thickly branched | **Root system**: deep, extensive, fleshy roots, central root

EBBEN trees since 1862
TreeEbb