

Malus toringo 'Sargent's Elegant'

Sargent's Elegant Toringo crabapple



Malus toringo 'Sargent's Elegant' (crab apple 'Sargent's Elegant') was selected at 'the Trial/Breeding Station for Arboriculture' in Boskoop from *Malus toringo* var. *sargentii*. 'Sargent's Elegant' is the grafted form and all specimens look alike - in contrast to the seed-sown wild species of which every plant looks different on account of genetic diversity. This small multi-stem tree or large shrub becomes noticeably broader than tall with an ultimate height of four to five metres. 'Sargent's Elegant' has a compact crown and so can be high-grafted to create a small tree. The crown is very densely branched and has thorny branches.

At the end of April or early May *Malus toringo* 'Sargent's Elegant' puts on a brilliant display of small, single white flowers. The sheer profusion of these flowers is a most impressive sight. Also, bees and other insects gladly seek out the high nectar and pollen value. The small, round fruits which appear after flowering and are eaten by birds and small mammals are glossy purple-red and stay on the tree until mid-October. *Malus toringo* 'Sargent's Elegant' has green budding foliage, egg-shaped with a sharply serrated leaf edge and has one to three side lobes on the long shoots. The foliage also stays green in summer, changing to orange-yellow in the autumn. Juvenile foliage is felty and emerges together with the flower.

Malus toringo 'Sargent's Elegant' is a very healthy and strong crab apple that does not get too big. The tree truly adds year-round seasonal interest and also has significant added value for biodiversity. The selection is a perfect candidate not just in gardens and in public spaces but also looks stunning on roofs and in containers. When grafted as a high standard, *Malus toringo* 'Sargent's Elegant' is also a good option in street settings, provided the low clearance does not constitute a problem due to the limited width and height.

SEASONAL COLOURS



TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, multi-stemmed trees, solitary shrubs

USE

Location: street, avenue, square, park, central reservation, in containers, roof garden, large garden, small garden, patio, traffic areas, industrial zones, ecological zone | **Pavement:** none, open, sealed | **Planting concepts:** Eco planting

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: rounded | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 5 - 6 m | **Width:** 4 - 5 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 5A - 8B

ASPECTS

Wind: tolerant to wind, slightly tolerant to coastal wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** moist | **Light requirements:** sun | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant:** bees, butterflies, birds, small mammals | **Extreme environments:** tolerates air pollution

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: corymbose, singular, small | **Flower colour:** white | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** green | **Leaves:** deciduous, polished, serrate, lobate | **Autumn colour:** yellow-orange | **Fruits:** striking, small, crabapple/ornamental apple, drupe | **Fruit colour:** red | **Bark colour:** brown | **Bark:** smooth, later on rough | **Twig colour:** brown | **Twigs:** bare, with lenticels | **Root system:** deep, shallow, extensive, slightly branched