

Quercus dentata

Daimyo oak



Quercus dentata (Daimyo oak) originated in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, China and Eastern Russia and was introduced in Europe in 1830. In its area of origin, the tree's acorns are ground into flour and then used in meals and as an ingredient in jelly. In Japan, the leaves of the tree are used to wrap *kashiwa mochi*, a sweet Japanese dish. The Daimyo oak is a slow-growing tree, growing up to 15 metres tall and 15 metres wide. However, some exist in the wild that are 20 - 25 metres tall. *Quercus dentata* has a very irregular, semi-open crown with dense branches. Young trees have a narrow crown shape that becomes oval to round when it gets older.

In late April, early May, the Daimyo oak blooms striking, hanging, golden yellow catkins. The species has very characteristic leaves. They look like the leaves of the common oak with round lobes, but can become up to 50 x 30 centimetres and with that, the tree has the largest leaves of all the types of oak. The thick, leathery leaves bud a matte green, turning yellow-brown to brown in autumn, and stay on the tree all winter. Striking fruits appear in autumn: green acorns that hang in racemes and turn brown when ripe. They are eaten by birds and small mammals, but are also edible for humans. *Quercus dentata* has a characteristic, deeply furrowed and heavy stem. Short, thick and fuzzy twigs that become bare when the tree has aged are also characteristic of the species.

With its remarkably large leaves, the Daimyo oak is very interesting for use as a characteristic multi-stem tree in large gardens or parks. The tree grows well in various types of soil and enjoys light environments, preferably in (quite) nutrient-rich, neutral to acidic and well-drained soil. *Quercus dentata* is not sensitive to wind or salt spray, and with its natural environment in the coastal forests of Northern Japan, some resistance to coastal winds may be assumed.

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, multi-stemmed trees, shade trees, characteristic trees, solitary shrubs | **Topiary on stem:** multi-stem umbrella

USE

Location: park, large garden, cemetery | **Pavement:** none | **Planting concepts:** food forest

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: rounded, wide oval | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 8 - 15 m | **Width:** 10 - 15 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 6A - 8B

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 (5.0 - 7.5) | **Host plant/forage plant:** birds, small mammals, humans | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to salt spray

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: catkins, striking, pendulous | **Flower colour:** golden yellow | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** matt green | **Leaves:** deciduous, semi-evergreen, obovate, big, thick, leathery, matt polished, rough, underside hairy, lobate | **Autumn colour:** yellow-brown, brown | **Fruits:** striking, edible, raceme, acorn | **Fruit colour:** brown, green | **Bark colour:** grey | **Bark:** deeply furrowed | **Twig colour:** grey | **Twigs:** hairy, thickly branched, short shoots | **Root system:** shallow, extensive

