

Corylus

Corylus, Hazel (Betulaceae)



avellana "Contorta", Corkscrew Hazel

Slow growing deciduous shrub with main and secondary branches which are twisted and spiralling. The branches are upright at first and then spread, become dense and weeping as the plant ages. Leaves: various shapes, 5-10cm long and usually round to oval, lanuginose and with toothed edges, twisted round themselves, pale green and then pale yellow in autumn. Flowers: long (3-6cm), hanging golden yellow catkins before the leaves, extremely decorative on bare branches. Fruit: nuts in groups of 1 to 4, in a shell which is divided in half, smaller than the common hazel nut but also edible.

Very hardy, grows well in all types of soil although it prefers acid substratum. Thrives in pots.

avellana "Contorta Red Majestic"

Origin: Germany. Derives from a cross between *Corylus avellana* "Contorta" and *Corylus maxima* "Purpurea". From the first it takes the shape of twisted branches, spectacular catkins in spring, but red. From *Corylus maxima* "Purpurea" it takes the reddish-purple colour of the large, deciduous leaves and the fruit with reddish shell. Valuable to florists because of the colour of the catkins and fruit.



Corylus



avellana "Pendula"

Small deciduous tree which is propagated by grafting on the trunk of *Corylus avellana*. The branches are weeping and reach the ground. Leaves, flowers and fruit the same as *Corylus avellana*. Use as a specimen on lawns or in rock gardens as well as in container compositions, with low growing plants at the bottom.

colurna, Turkish Hazel

Origin: South-east Europe, Western Asia. Large or medium deciduous tree with pyramidal crown, dense and regular. Rough, grey bark. Oval leaves, 12cm long, vivid green, golden-yellow in autumn. Golden catkins in February. Bunches of 3-6 edible fruit. No special requirements as regards soil, tolerates drought and heat, withstands pollution.



Corylus



maxima "Purpurea",
Purple Leaf Filbert

Well-branched, deciduous shrub. Large leaves, reddish-purple-black in spring, less vivid in summer. Reddish catkins from November to April, edible fruit from August to September. Same growing requirements as *Corylus avellana*.