

Fraxinus

Fraxinus, Ash (*Oleaceae*)



americana

Origin: North-east America where they grow to an enormous height (40-45m), while in Europe they grow to the height indicated above. Broadly columnar habit, ash-grey bark, deciduous, pinnate, dark green leaves up to 35cm long which turn purple or yellow in autumn. Regrowth occurs later than *F. excelsior* and the buds are paler. Suitable for moist and fertile soil. Useful for creating shady areas very quickly.

angustifolia (*F. oxycarpa*)

Origin: Southwest Europe, Northern Africa. Dense, spreading, deciduous tree with shady and regular crown. Shiny green, pinnate leaves are 25 cm wide and made up of 13 pointed leaflets, which turn a beautiful golden-yellow in autumn. Grows in all soils, even dry ones. Withstands urban pollution. Excellent for very regular avenues.



Fraxinus



angustifolia "Raywood" **(F. oxycarpa "Flame")**

Origin: Australia. Deciduous tree with bushy crown, slightly rounded. Leaves 25-30cm long made up of 7-13 narrow leaflets, 4-8cm, dark green, turning reddish-purple in autumn. Tolerates dry soil even better than *F. excelsior*. An excellent street tree because it tolerates pollution and tarmac.

excelsior, Common Ash

Origin: Europe, Asia Minor. Majestic, deciduous tree with high, oval or spherical crown and branches wide apart. Imparipinnate leaves, up to 35cm long, made up of numerous toothed, dark green leaflets. Tiny, blackish-purple flowers in spring before the leaves (which appear late) on the nodes of all the small branchlets. Fruit: samaras with one wing grouped in dense, pendulous bunches. Flourishes in all types of soil but grows more vigorously in fertile, cool, deep soil. Very resistant to the cold and common in North Italy up to 1,400 meters above sea level. Tolerates pollution and can be grown near the sea as long as it is protected from the direct action of saltiness.



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excelsior "atlas"

Origin: Holland. Cultivar of *Fraxinus excelsior* which is easily recognised for its slender habit, from pyramidal to conical. The leaves are the same as *F. excelsior* as regards shape and structure but they develop a little later and in autumn they turn bright yellow. Male variety that produces little or no fruit. Excellent for avenues or not too wide streets. Withstands urban climate. Growing requirements: the same as *F. excelsior*.

excelsior "Jaspidea"

Variety selected in France in 1802. Forms broad pyramidal, crown that is very eye-catching for its long golden branches, often striped with green. Also interesting for shades of leaves that vary depending on the seasons: yellow upon opening, immediately afterwards greenish-yellow, then deep yellow with variegations in autumn. Same growing requirements as *F. excelsior*, good against the green background of parks, for avenues and squares.



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excelsior "Pendula",
Weeping Ash

Deciduous tree, main and secondary branches arching and weeping which make a clear pendulous habit, at the same time rigid and well proportioned. Leaves and growing requirements the same as *F. excelsior*.

excelsior "Westhof's Glorie"

Origin: Holland. Large deciduous tree with straight trunk and oval crown, wide, very regular. Leaves: very similar to those of *F. excelsior*, but they appear later. Flowers and fruit: few and sporadic. Growing requirements the same as *F. excelsior*.



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ornus, Manna Ash

Origin: Southern Europe, Asia Minor. Small, deciduous tree or large shrub with short trunk and dome-shaped crown, slightly flattened. Smooth, light or dark grey bark. Imparipinnate leaves, up to 25cm long and made up of numerous pale green leaflets. Very showy, fragrant, creamy-white flowers in May, grouped in dense, terminal racemes. Fruit: clusters of one-winged samaras. Popular in sunny, dry places in the hills and mountains of Italy, up to 1000 meters above sea level in the north, and 1400 meters in

the south. Prefers dry, carbonate or alkaline soil. Tolerates maritime exposure, withstands pollution.

ornus "Meczek"

Origin: Southern Europe, Asia Minor. Small, deciduous tree or large shrub with short trunk and dome-shaped crown, slightly flattened. Smooth, light or dark grey bark. Imparipinnate leaves, up to 25cm long and made up of numerous pale green leaflets. Very showy, fragrant, creamy-white flowers in May, grouped in dense, terminal racemes. Fruit: clusters of one-winged samaras. Popular in sunny, dry places in the hills and mountains of Italy, up to 1000 meters above sea level in the north, and 1400 meters in the south. Prefers dry, carbonate or alkaline soil. Tolerates maritime exposure, withstands pollution.

