



Carpinus betulus 'Frans Fontaine'



Height	10 m
Crown	narrow pyramidal to narrow ovoid, compact, dark, dense crown
Bark and branches	bark grey and smooth, twigs grey-brown with short hairs
Leaf	ovoid, bright green, 8 - 10 cm
Autumn colour	yellow
Flowers	male catkins, green, April-May
Fruits	none, fruitless cultivar
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	makes few demands as regards soil, preference for loamy ground
Soil moisture	suitable for dry soil, suitable for wet soil
Paving	tolerates paving
Winter hardiness zone	5a (-28,8 to -26,1 °C)
Wind resistance	very good
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind
Application	avenues and broad streets, narrow streets, parks, squares, cemeteries, industrial areas, large gardens
Shape	clearstem tree, feathered tree
Origin	Plantsoenendienst Eindhoven (Netherlands), approx. 1983

The narrowest *Carpinus betulus* cultivar. Remains considerably narrower than 'Fastigiata'. At a height of 10 m the tree is only 3 m wide. This cultivar is often grown on a standard tree but there are specimens that branch out from the ground up. Young twigs are grey: older branches and the trunk are dark grey and remarkably smooth. The leaves are a fresh colour of green in the spring and retain that colour throughout the summer. The leaf has a sharply double serrated edge and the leaf top tapers to a point. The whole tree turns colour to golden yellow in the autumn. Since 'Frans Fontaine' only bears male flowers, the tree does not produce any fruit. Root growth is relatively close to the surface. The rotted leaves are good soil improvers. 'Frans Fontaine' is a worthy avenue and street tree.