



Fagus grandifolia



Height	circa 30 m
Crown	wide spreading to round, dark, dense crown
Bark and branches	silver grey, thin, smooth bark
Leaf	ovate-linear, light green, 6 - 15 cm
Autumn colour	yellow
Flowers	small, inconspicuous catkins, May
Fruits	nuts, burrs with brush-like prickles, 1.5 cm - 2 cm
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	rich loamy soil with a high humus content
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	4 (-34,4 to -28,9 °C)
Wind resistance	moderate to poor
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Application	parks, cemeteries, large gardens
Shape	clearstem tree, feathered tree
Origin	eastern and central North America
Synonyms	Fagus americana

This American beech is a slow grower with a height up to circa 30 m. Growth and shape are similar to *F. sylvatica*. The bark is thin, smooth and silver grey, this is in contrast with *F. sylvatica* that has a dark grey bark. As with most beeches, the bark is sensitive to scorching. The green leaves are oval to linear-ovate and strikingly large for a beech: 6 - 15 cm. The slightly upwards pointing leaf margin is toothed. The young leaf is thickly covered with short, soft hairs. In autumn the colour of the leaf turns into golden yellow to brown. The inflorescence is inconspicuous and after the flowering it forms 1.5. cm - 2 cm long woody fruits, covered with brushy prickles. the tree roots shallowly and thrives well in richer, loamy soil with a high humus content. Rather sensitive to wind.