



Melia azedarach



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| Height | 6 - 15 m |
| Crown | round to flat-topped spherical, light, open crown, capricious growing |
| Bark and branches | dark brown to reddish brown, mature trunks grooved |
| Leaf | bipinnate, 25- 60 cm long, leaves ovate to elliptical, 2 - 5 cm long, dark green, feathered leaf |
| Autumn colour | yellow |
| Flowers | light violet, approx. 2 cm, loose panicles of 20 - 25 cm, May |
| Fruits | round berry with thin fleshy skin, approx. 1.5 cm. light yellow |
| Spines/thorns | None |
| Toxicity | usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock |
| Soil type | quite fertile, well-drained soil, tolerates drought |
| Soil moisture | suitable for dry soil |
| Paving | tolerates partial paving |
| Winter hardiness zone | 7b (-14,9 to -12,3 °C) |
| Wind resistance | good, but does not tolerate cold, drying wind |
| Other resistances | can withstand wind |
| Fauna tree | can withstand wind, provides food for birds |
| Application | avenues and broad streets, parks, squares, cemeteries, large gardens |
| Shape | clearstem tree, multi-stem treem |
| Origin | North India, China |

Medium-size to large tree with quite loose, round to flat-topped spherical crown of 6 - 12 m. The dark brown to reddish brown bark is grooved when mature. The year-old twigs are relatively thick and green to reddish. The large bipinnate leaf consists of numerous leaf segments. It is 25 to 60 cm long and half as wide. Younger trees may show leaves up to 80 cm long. In autumn it turns yellow. In May the light violet flowers open in large loose panicles. They are followed by small, round light yellow berries. This fruits are what gave the tree the English name of Bead Tree. Melia thrives on many soils, provided it is sufficiently drained, tolerates drought and prefers a warm, sunny location. The tree is wind resistant, but it sensitive to cold, drying wind. Due to its lesser hardiness, in Northern Europe, Melia is only suitable as a park tree for sheltered sites.