



Sorbus thibetica 'John Mitchell'



Height	15 - 20 m
Crown	oval, later almost round, half-open crown
Bark and branches	smooth and dark grey, older trunks flake off
Leaf	broad ovoid to round, dark green, approx. 20 x 17 cm
Flowers	cream white, in upright umbels of 7 - 15 flowers, May/June
Fruits	brownish-red, Ø 1.5 - 2 cm
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	makes few demands, can grow on poor soils
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	8 (-12,2 to -6,7 °C)
Wind resistance	good
Other resistances	can withstand wind
Fauna tree	can withstand wind, provides food for birds
Application	avenues and broad streets, parks, cemeteries, large gardens
Origin	F. Kingdon-Ward, England
Synonyms	Sorbus 'Mitchellii'

Medium-sized to large tree with an ascending manner of growth: it quickly becomes oval. Old specimens develop an almost rounded crown. The trunk is smooth and dark grey: older trunks flake off somewhat. The young twigs are green and carry soft hairs. From the second year the branches become bare and dark brown. When they emerge the remarkably large leaves are covered with white felt-like hairs. They are silver-grey on the underside and remain so the entire summer. In the autumn the leaves turn yellowish and the underside remains silver-grey up to the last minute. The flowers grow in long-stemmed upright umbels and are followed by round to elliptical fruits that turn orange-red to brownish-red. This tree was introduced from China by Frank Kingdon-Ward. 'John Mitchell' is the only clone of *S. thibetica* that is cultivated.