

# AMERICAN BEECH

*Fagus grandifolia*



University of Connecticut Plant Database

<b>Mature Height</b>	80-100 Feet	<b>Soil Type</b>	Well-drained
<b>Mature Spread</b>	Up to 120 Feet	<b>Flower Color</b>	Inconspicuous
<b>Mature Form</b>	Broadly Spreading	<b>Foliage Color</b>	Dark Green
<b>Growth Rate</b>	Slow	<b>Fall Color</b>	Dark Yellow to Brown
<b>Sun Exposure</b>	Shade Tolerant	<b>Zones</b>	4-9
<b>Soil Moisture</b>	Moist		

The American Beech, *Fagus grandifolia*, is a long-lived tree with a short trunk and widely spreading crown. It is best suited for large areas, but will adapt somewhat to more crowded conditions by growing more upright. In autumn, the American Beech turns an attractive bronze color, with its leaves persisting into winter. The tree has spiky nuts that also last into winter and draw mammals and birds.

Although the American Beech is adaptable to many soil types, it does not grow well in excessively wet areas. Few trees are as shade-tolerant as this one, so it can be planted in any sun exposure. The American Beech is a hardy tree resistant to insects, disease, and ozone. It should be pruned in the summer or early fall.



University of Connecticut Plant Database



Ohio Department of Natural Resources



Development of this fact sheet is funded by Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry, Community and Urban Forestry. Plant A Million is sponsored by Hoosier Heartland Resource Conservation and Development Council and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Boone, Brown, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Monroe, Morgan and Shelby Counties (All Rights Reserved).

Hoosier Heartland RC&D Council and its partnering organizations are equal opportunity program providers and employers.

Hoosier Heartland RC&D Council, 6041 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46278 ~ (317) 290-3250 ~ [www.plantamillion.org](http://www.plantamillion.org)