

AMERICAN HOPHORNBEAM

Ostrya virginiana



Ohio Department of Natural Resources Tree Index

Mature Height	30-40 Feet	Soil Type	Well-drained
Mature Spread	20-30 Feet	Flower Color	Inconspicuous
Mature Form	Round	Foliage Color	Yellow-green
Growth Rate	Slow	Fall Color	Light Yellow
Sun Exposure	Shade	Zones	4-8
Soil Moisture	Moist		

The American Hophornbeam, *Ostrya virginiana*, is a tree with very strong wood and is also commonly known as Ironwood. Its autumn foliage is not particularly impressive, but the tree's bark flakes into strips and its branches and trunk develop an interesting "muscle-like" appearance with age. In spring it produces small, green fruits that hang in clusters and eventually turn brown.

The American Hophornbeam's medium size makes it a good choice for lawns. Although it prefers shade, this tree can grow in full sun if it is well-watered. Its taproot makes transplanting difficult. The American Hophornbeam is sensitive to salt, so roadside planting should be avoided. This tree is often not available commercially.



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University of Connecticut Plant Database



Ricketts Glen State Park Hikers Guide



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