

HORNBEAM

Carpinus caroliniana



University of Connecticut Plant Database

Mature Height	20-30 Feet	Soil Type	Loose, Well-drained
Mature Spread	25-35 Feet	Flower Color	Green
Mature Form	Ovate	Foliage Color	Blue-green
Growth Rate	Slow	Fall Color	Yellow to Red
Sun Exposure	Shade	Zones	3-9
Soil Moisture	Moist		

The American Hornbeam, *Carpinus caroliniana*, is also commonly known as Blue Beech, Ironwood, Musclemwood, and Water Beech. It is a good tree for small, shady lawns, and is often used as a hedge or screen tree. This tree's bright autumn colors and smooth, dark gray-blue bark in winter makes it a good ornamental year-round.

The American Hornbeam is highly sensitive to drought and soil compaction and prefers deep, fertile, moist soil. Since it is tolerant of flooding, this tree is a good choice for planting along streams and ponds. It is very difficult to transplant.



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Missouri State University Department of Biology



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