



Diospyros virginiana



Height	10-15 m
Width	6-8m
Crown	oval, half-open crown, capricious growing
Bark and branches	brown, grey
Leaf	green
Flowers	green-yellow, flowers in June
Fruits	edible fruits, yellow, orange
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	clayed soil, loamy soil, sandy soil, calcareous soil
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	6 (-23,3 to -17,8 °C)
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), valuable for bees (honey plant)
Shape	clearstem tree, multi-stem treem, halfstem fruit tree

Diospyros virginiana is a medium-sized tree with a broad, round crown, although it can be narrower in seedlings. The young twigs are reddish green. The old bark is dark grey to blackish grey and prominently and deeply block-shaped grooved. The leaves are ovate, glossy dark green and slightly leathery to the touch. In the USA, the tree can suffer from leaf spot disease, but this does not occur in Europe. The tree has little or no disease or pest problems. In June, the small, inconspicuous flowers open in the leaf axils. The male flowers are alone to bundles of three together and the female flowers are always alone. Both male and female flowers are greenish-yellow. Flowering is followed by 2.5-3 cm large berry-like fruits that are orange when ripe. In varieties selected especially for fruiting, the fruits are larger. After being frozen once, the fruits are edible, but they can be constipating. For horses, the fruits are poisonous.

Likes well-drained, nutritious, preferably loamy soil. Is well wind resistant but does not tolerate cold, dry winds.