



Nyssa aquatica



Height	15-20 (30) m
Width	10-15m
Crown	columnar, dark, dense crown
Bark and branches	twigs red to reddish brown, bark gray to greyish brown, later with blocky grooves
Leaf	green
Autumn colour	yellow, orange, red
Flowers	green-yellow, flowers in April
Fruits	drupe, oval, approx. 2-2.5 cm in size, purple to purplish black
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	loamy soil, sandy soil, peaty soil, acid soil, calcareous soil
Soil moisture	suitable for wet soil, withstand short flood
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	5a (-28,8 to -26,1 °C)
Wind resistance	moderate
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), provides food for birds
Application	tree containers, roof gardens
Shape	clearstem tree

Nyssa aquatica is a stately tree with a pyramidal crown that usually forms sidewood at a low height. The free trunk is naturally quite short. The crown is slightly narrower than in the better-known *N. sylvatica*. The young twigs are initially downy-hairy, but soon bare. They are red to reddish brown. The bark is grey to grey-brown and smooth. After several years, block-like grooves form on the bark. The leaves are slightly leathery. In summer they are dark green and in autumn they turn intense orange and red for weeks before falling off. Flowering is inconspicuous with small greenish-yellow male flowers in globular clusters and single female flowers. The drupes are ovoid, up to 2.5 cm in size and purple. Nyssa aquatica is native to the southeastern USA, where it grows on moist soils and in swamps. The tree tolerates very moist soil and even temporary flooding. This makes *N. aquatica* suitable for use in wadis or as a riparian planting. Its brilliant autumn colours are its main ornamental value.