



Ostrya virginiana



Height	8 - 20 m
Width	8-15m
Crown	round, dark, dense crown
Bark and branches	bark grey-brown, grooved, young twigs bear hairs
Leaf	elongated ovoid to oval, green, 6 - 12 cm
Autumn colour	yellow
Flowers	yellowish-green catkins, ♂ 4-5 cm long, ♀ 2 - 2.5 cm long, April
Fruits	nutlets, in fruit resembling hops
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	likes calcareous soil
Soil moisture	suitable for dry soil
Paving	tolerates paving
Winter hardiness zone	4 (-34,4 to -28,9 °C)
Wind resistance	good
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind
Shape	clearstem tree, multi-stem treem
Origin	central and eastern part of the United States

Native to a great deal of the United States where it is valued as a producer of hard wood ('ironwood'). A remarkable feature is the very low branching: the trunk often grows no higher than half a metre. The pendulous side branches cause a colossal crown to be formed with the passage of time. The short trunk is grey-brown, grooved and flakes off in small plates. The trunk becomes steadily darker in older trees. Young twigs are hairy but they are bare at a later stage. The long ovoid to oval leaves have a double serrated edge and turn a remarkable colour of yellow in autumn. The base of the leaf is more heart-shaped than that of *O. carpinifolia*. The tree's flowers are in the form of yellowish-green male catkins 4 - 5 cm long and female flowers in small ears. The latter turn into fruit resembling a hop and are approx. 6 cm long.