



Pterostyrax hispida



Height	6 - 8 (12) m
Width	6-8m
Crown	broad fan-shaped, later rounded, half-open crown
Bark and branches	grey to grey-brown, grooved, young twigs hairy
Leaf	ovoid to oval, long tapered, fresh green, 6 - 17 cm
Flowers	white, in pendulous plumes, 10 - 20 cm long, June/July, fragrant flowers
Fruits	elongated drupe, approx. 1 cm
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	makes few demands, can take calcareous soils
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	6a (-23,3 to -20,6 °C)
Wind resistance	bad
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
Origin	Japan and China

Large shrub that grows into a tree, often multi-trunked and with a spreading manner of growth. Originally occurs on wooded mountain slopes in Japan and China. The grey-brown aromatic bark carries a light network of grooves and flakes off in platelets. The twigs start out hairy but are later bare. The large, ovoid to oval leaves are tapered. The upper side is fresh green, the underside grey-green. Bell-shaped white flowers with a diameter of approx. 1 cm appear in June/July. They have a strong and pleasant smell and are grouped in plumes measuring up to 20 cm. After flowering, large green drupes appear, approx. 1 cm in size. They bear rough hairs and have 5 ribs. Pterostyrax prefers neutral to slightly acid, well drained soil. It can also take calcareous soils. It is a particularly remarkable sight when in full bloom. Pterostyrax hispida is sometimes called the 'epaulette tree' because the flowers resemble the decoration on the shoulders of uniform jackets. The tree only produces abundant flowers after the passage of a few years.