



## Staphylea colchica



|                              |                                                         |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Height</b>                | 3-4 m                                                   |
| <b>Width</b>                 | 2-4m                                                    |
| <b>Crown</b>                 | oval, half-open crown                                   |
| <b>Bark and branches</b>     | brown                                                   |
| <b>Leaf</b>                  | green                                                   |
| <b>Flowers</b>               | cream white, flowers in May, fragrant flowers           |
| <b>Fruits</b>                | yellow-brown, bloated                                   |
| <b>Spines/thorns</b>         | None                                                    |
| <b>Toxicity</b>              | usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock |
| <b>Soil type</b>             | clayed soil, loamy soil, sandy soil, calcareous soil    |
| <b>Paving</b>                | tolerates no paving                                     |
| <b>Winter hardiness zone</b> | 6 (-23,3 to -17,8 °C)                                   |
| <b>Wind resistance</b>       | fairly to good                                          |
| <b>Other resistances</b>     | resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)                           |
| <b>Fauna tree</b>            | resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), valuable for butterflies |
| <b>Application</b>           | tree containers, small gardens                          |
| <b>Shape</b>                 | multi-stem treem                                        |

Staphylea colchica is a large, multi-stemmed shrub reaching about 4 meters in height. The shrub grows distinctly upright and is quite narrow when young. Later, it becomes wider and forms a vase-shaped crown. The green branches are noticeably reddish-tinted on the sun-exposed side. The leaf buds are always angled upwards. The uneven pinnate leaves always consist of 5 leaflets. However, on flower shoots, the leaves are trifoliate. The topside of the leaves is bright green, while the underside is glossy pale green. Around mid-May, drooping plumes with white flowers appear. Because the calyces are yellow-green, the flowers have a slightly greenish-white color impression. The flowers are followed by the characteristic inflated, hanging fruits typical of every Staphylea. In *S. colchica*, they are 2- to 3-chambered and 5-8 cm long. Staphylea colchica is a robust shrub that thrives in any nutritious, sufficiently moist, but well-drained soil. It is a typical warmth-lover that should ideally be planted in a sunny location.