



Sinowilsonia henryi



Height	5-8 m
Width	6-8m
Crown	round, dark, dense crown, capricious growing
Bark and branches	grey to grey brown, smooth
Leaf	dark green
Flowers	green, inconspicuous, flowers in April-May
Fruits	brown
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	sandy soil, peaty soil, acid soil, well-drained
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	6a (-23,3 to -20,6 °C)
Wind resistance	moderate
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Origin	Central and Western China

Sinowilsonia henryi is a large shrub to small, often multi-stemmed tree 5-8 m tall. The crown is round and the tree is somewhat reminiscent of Tilia from a distance. Both twigs and leaves are covered with felty hairs that make them soft to the touch. The fairly large leaves betray Sinowilsonia's kinship with Hamamelis. The flowers are clearly less spectacular. Sinowilsonia produces green, unisexual flowers that open around April-May but are not very conspicuous. The male flowers appear in 3-5 cm long catkins, while the female flowers appear in shorter clusters. When these develop into brown fruits, they can reach 15 cm in length.

The name incorporates the name of Ernest Wilson, who was affectionately called "Chinese Wilson". Wilson was one of the greatest plant hunters who introduced very many plants from China into western gardens in the late 19th century and early 20th century. Sinowilsonia henryi prefers to grow in nutrient-rich, acid soil. Although the soil should be sufficiently moist, it should also be well-drained. Prolonged stagnant water around the roots is disastrous.