



Carpinus betulus 'Frans Fontaine'



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| Height | 10 m |
| Width | 2-3m |
| Crown | narrow pyramidal to narrow ovoid, compact, dark, dense crown |
| Bark and branches | bark grey and smooth, twigs grey-brown with short hairs |
| Leaf | ovoid, bright green, 8 - 10 cm |
| Autumn colour | yellow |
| Flowers | male catkins, green, April-May |
| Fruits | none, fruitless cultivar |
| Spines/thorns | None |
| Toxicity | usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock |
| Soil type | makes few demands as regards soil, preference for loamy ground |
| Soil moisture | suitable for dry soil, suitable for wet soil |
| Paving | tolerates paving |
| Winter hardiness zone | 5a (-28,8 to -26,1 °C) |
| Wind resistance | very good |
| Other resistances | resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind |
| Application | avenues and broad streets, narrow streets, parks, squares, cemeteries, industrial areas, large gardens |
| Shape | clearstem tree, feathered tree |
| Origin | Plantsoenendienst Eindhoven (Netherlands), approx. 1983 |

The narrowest Carpinus betulus cultivar. Remains considerably narrower than 'Fastigiata'. At a height of 10 m the tree is only 3 m wide. This cultivar is often grown on a standard tree but there are specimens that branch out from the ground up. Young twigs are grey: older branches and the trunk are dark grey and remarkably smooth. The leaves are a fresh colour of green in the spring and retain that colour throughout the summer. The leaf has a sharply double serrated edge and the leaf top tapers to a point. The whole tree turns colour to golden yellow in the autumn. Since 'Frans Fontaine' only bears male flowers, the tree does not produce any fruit. Root growth is relatively close to the surface. The rotted leaves are good soil improvers. 'Frans Fontaine' is a worthy avenue and street tree.