



Sorbus alnifolia var. submollis



Height	8-12 m
Width	4-8m
Crown	avoid to round
Bark and branches	dark grey
Leaf	dark green
Autumn colour	orange, red
Flowers	white, flowers in May-June
Fruits	yellow to orange and red
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	sandy soil, acid soil
Paving	tolerates partial paving
Winter hardiness zone	4 (-34,4 to -28,9 °C)
Wind resistance	fairly
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), provides food for birds
Application	avenues and broad streets, narrow streets, tree containers
Origin	U.S. National Arboretum, Washington D.C., USA, 2003

The natural variety submollis does not differ much from the species *Sorbus alnifolia*. It is a small to medium-sized tree of 8-12 m with a closed, ovoid to round crown. The bark is dark grey and smooth and the young twigs are greenish brown with striking red-brown leaf buds. The oval leaves somewhat resemble that of *Alnus spaethii*, but are smaller. In the species *Sorbus alnifolia*, the leaves are glabrous on both sides. In var. submollis, the underside of the leaves is slightly hairy. Even on older leaves, this hairiness can still be seen in the vein ridges. In autumn, the leaves turn an attractive pink, orange and red. In May-June, the white flowers open in corymbs about 5 cm wide. While the flower stalks of the species *S. alnifolia* are hairless, those of var. submollis are downy-hairy. The flowers are followed by round to oval fruits that turn from yellow to red. Cross-pollination is necessary for good fruit setting. So always plant at least two trees near each other. *Sorbus alnifolia* var. submollis occurs in central China, Korea and Japan. The tree grows preferably in well-drained, fertile soil. Hardiness zone 4.