



Aralia elata



Height	8 – 10(15) m
Width	4-5m
Crown	vase-shaped, light, open crown, capricious growing
Bark and branches	branches and bark grey, with sharp spines
Leaf	double pinnate compound leaves, 40-100 (140 cm), leaf segments ovate, 6-12 cm, green
Autumn colour	yellow, orange, red
Flowers	in large plumes upto 35cm long, cream white, flowers in August
Fruits	black, 6mm
Spines/thorns	Yes
Toxicity	has toxic components
Soil type	clayed soil, loamy soil, sandy soil, peaty soil, all soil types
Soil moisture	suitable for dry soil, withstand short flood
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	5 (-28,8 to -23,4 °C)
Wind resistance	not good
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), valuable for butterflies
Application	small gardens, patio gardens
Shape	multi-stem treem

Aralia elata is a very distinctive tree with few, very thick branches up to a height of about 10 m. Initially, the tree grows vase-shaped, later in life the length growth decreases and the crown becomes rounded. The tree is naturally multi-stemmed and forms several thick, strongly spiny main branches. Because of the strongly spiny branches, A. elata has been given the Dutch name Devil's walking stick. The double-pinnate leaves are very large, sometimes up to over a metre long. They consist of up to 80 leaflets. In summer the leaves are green, before falling off in autumn they turn yellow to orange-red. The distinctive leaf marks of the fallen leaves cover almost the entire twig. Sizeable panicles of creamy-white flowers appear in August and are well-frequented by bees. The flowers are sometimes followed by small black fruits. A. elata prefers to grow in a somewhat sheltered spot in full sun or semi-shade. The tree can form a lot of root storage by underground shoots, which can be a nuisance in some cases. The large compound leaves are susceptible to damage by wind. The soil should be nutritious and humus-rich and sufficiently moist, even though A. elata tolerates temporary drought well. The tree does well as a solitary or in small groups. Its characteristic shape has