



Cladrastis kentukea



Height	8 - 10 (15) m
Width	8-10m
Crown	flat globular, half-open crown, capricious growing
Bark and branches	grey brown, smooth
Leaf	odd-pinnate, fresh green, overall leaf 20 - 30 cm long, feathered leaf
Autumn colour	yellow
Flowers	white in loose, pendulous panicles, late May/June, fragrant flowers
Fruits	flat pod, 8 - 12 cm
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	clay and sandy soils
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	4 (-34,4 to -28,9 °C)
Wind resistance	good, when mature more susceptible
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind, valuable for bees (honey plant)
Application	tree containers, roof gardens
Shape	clearstem tree, multi-stem tree
Origin	south-eastern part of North America
Synonyms	Cladrastis lutea

A low branching tree with a wide, round crown that is rarely seen here. Is also sometimes grown as multiple-stemmed shrub. The trunk is grey brown and smooth, when mature shallow grooves may appear. The wood is strikingly yellow, especially when freshly sawn. The large, compound leaf consists of 7 to 9 ovoid to ovate leaflets, which are each 8 - 14 cm large. The separate leaflets are not opposite on the central stalk. They turn strikingly yellow in autumn. The loose, pendulous panicles with fragrant, white flowers are circa 25 cm long. In late summer the pods appear that turn from green through brown to purplish brown. Cladrastis kentukea has a big, fleshy root system and thrives best in a sunny, warm location but its hardiness is good. Damage to the young twigs of Cladrastis kentukea reveals yellow wood. The tree forms a characteristic trunk when older.