



Prunus mahaleb



Height	5-10 m
Width	6-8m
Crown	broad vase-shaped, dark, dense crown
Bark and branches	branches brown with flaking gray and densely hairy: bark brown-grey, smooth at first, later grooved
Leaf	round to broad ovoid, 3-7 cm long, 2-3.5 cm wide, glossy medium green
Flowers	racemes of 6-10 flowers, approx. 1.5 cm in size, white, April
Fruits	round drupe, approx. 6 mm, dark red to black
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	clayed soil, loamy soil, sandy soil
Soil moisture	suitable for dry soil
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	5a (-28,8 to -26,1 °C)
Wind resistance	good
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), valuable for butterflies
Application	tree containers, roof gardens
Shape	clearstem tree, multi-stem tree

Prunus mahaleb is a shrub to medium-sized tree that can vary in height from 5-10 m. The crown is broad to round and open in structure. The thin twigs are brown and typically flake grey. The young twigs are densely white-haired. Initially, the old bark is grey and smooth. Only at a later age does it become grooved and detachable in small sheets. The wood of Prunus mahaleb is pleasantly aromatic. The broad ovoid to round leaves are shiny mid-green and lighter underneath. The top is bare and the veins underneath are white to brown with hairs. In April, at the same time as the leaves appear, the fragrant white flowers open. These are approx. 1.5 cm in size and are arranged in clusters of 6-10 flowers. They can be followed by small dark red to black fruits. These are edible, but taste tart and sour. Naturally, Prunus mahaleb grows on fairly poor, rocky soil. In cultivation, too, the tree grows best on soil that is not too nutritious and well drained. If these conditions are met, Prunus mahaleb will flower best. Prunus mahaleb is good for use in natural planting.