



Sassafras albidum



Height	10 - 15 m
Width	6-12m
Crown	round, dark, dense crown
Bark and branches	twigs green, bark brown-grey, deeply grooved
Leaf	ovate to elongated, unlobed to 3-lobed, glossy green, 7 - 18 cm
Autumn colour	yellow, orange
Flowers	in racemose clusters, greenish-yellow, approx. 1.5 cm, April, fragrant flowers
Fruits	ovoid drupe, 1 - 1.5 cm, glossy, dark-blue, on red stem
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	has toxic components
Soil type	moist to quite dry, well-drained soils, also on clay
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	5b (-26,0 to -23,4 °C)
Wind resistance	moderate
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), provides food for birds
Shape	clearstem tree, multi-stem treem
Origin	Eastern and south eastern North America

Striking tree with a dense, round crown of 10 - 15 m. Forms root suckers so a single tree, when mature, can grow into what looks like a thicket. Young twigs are bright green and smooth. The twigs and branches remain green for several years. Old bark is brown-grey with deep, reticulate grooves. The glossy, green leaves are of variable shapes, from unlobed to 3-lobed. The underside is blue-green and slightly to very hairy. The branches as well as the leaves spread an aromatic, lemony fragrance when crushed. In autumn the leaf turns golden yellow to yellow-orange. The flowers appear just before the leaf emerges. Small greenish yellow flowers stand in racemose clusters. They are followed by glossy, dark-blue drupes on red stems. Grows on almost every moist to quite dry, well-drained soil. Despite the fact that it is a pioneer tree in its native habitat, *S. albidum* is difficult to transplant in culture.