



Physocarpus opulifolius 'Diabolo'



Height	2-3 m
Width	2-3m
Crown	flatened spherical
Bark and branches	bark grey-brown, flaking
Flowers	pinkish white, flowers in May-June
Fruits	brown-red
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	all, acid soil, calcareous soil
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	3 (-40,0 to -24,5 °C)
Wind resistance	good
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	roof gardens, small gardens
Origin	U.S. National Arboretum, Washington D.C., USA, 2000

'Diabolo' forms a medium to large, multi-stemmed shrub that can eventually grow about 3 m tall. Due to the overhanging branches, the crown is flattened spherical and grows to over 3 m in diameter. The bark is light grey-brown and begins to peel off after only a few years. The leaves of 'Diabolo' are dark purple-brown and are the plant's main ornamental feature. The flowers, which open around late May-early June, are arranged in dense corymbs. When opening, the flowers are pinkish white, but they soon turn white. They are followed by brownish-red fruits, which contrast nicely with the dark foliage.

'Diabolo' was found in 1968 by Hans Theodor Schadendorf Baumschule in Barmstedt, Germany. In a field of green-leaved seedlings, it was the only plant with dark leaves. It was not until 1995 that people saw its potential and 'Diabolo' was introduced. 'Diabolo' grows in any permeable soil, regardless of pH. It tolerates reasonably wet as well as dry soil. Suitable as a solitary or as a bedding plant. In the USA, the plant is known under the cultivar name 'Monlo'. Hardiness zone 3.