Golden European Ash

Fraxinus excelsior 'Aurea'



Golden European Ash in fall
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 50 feet

Spread: 40 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Common Ash

Description:

A unique and slow growing shade tree of European origin, featuring a shapely rounded habit of growth; this variety features yellow shoots and bark along with bright yellow fall color, makes an excellent accent in the landscape

Ornamental Features

Golden European Ash has attractive chartreuse deciduous foliage which emerges gold in spring on a tree with a round habit of growth. The compound leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding yellow in the fall. The furrowed olive green bark and harvest gold branches are extremely showy and add significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

Golden European Ash is a deciduous tree with a more or less rounded form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned in summer after the leaves have fully developed, as it may 'bleed' sap if pruned in late winter or early spring. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects

Golden European Ash is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

Golden European Ash will grow to be about 50 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 40 feet. It has a high canopy of foliage that sits well above the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 90 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.