Major's Gold Ash

Fraxinus nigra 'Major's Gold'



Major's Gold Ash in spring
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 40 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 3

Description:

An impressive new hardy tree for the front yard with brilliant orange-golden foliage emerging in spring and fading to yellowish-green, but once again turning brilliant gold early in fall, showy orange-gold stems in winter; a great accent tree for home use

Ornamental Features

Major's Gold Ash has attractive lime green deciduous foliage which emerges gold in spring on a tree with an upright spreading habit of growth. The pointy compound leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding gold in the fall. The rough tan bark and harvest gold branches are extremely showy and add significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

Major's Gold Ash is a deciduous tree with a strong central leader and an upright spreading habit of growth. 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 is a relatively low maintenance tree, 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. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Major's Gold Ash is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

Major's Gold Ash will grow to be about 40 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 feet. It has a high canopy with a typical clearance of 6 feet from 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 medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 70 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It is quite adaptable, prefering to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species.