

Hedge Maple

Acer campestre

English Field Maple

Hedge Maple is low branched with a nicely symmetrical rounded crown. Branches are slender and profuse, lending a dense crown during summer and fine texture to the landscape in the winter. Hedge Maple is well suited for partially shaded areas of the landscape and in those climates susceptible to drought. The common name stems from its ability to withstand heavy and repeated pruning to form it into a dense windrow or hedge. Many cultivars are available through nurseries.



Identification

Leaves

Deciduous, opposite, simple, 3-5 lobed, 2-4" wide and equally long, dull to dark green above and hairy beneath. Yellow in autumn.



Bark/Wood

Bark is brown, thin and easily damaged when young. Becomes more gray, ridged and furrowed with age.



Flower/Fruit

Monoecious; inconspicuous and not showy green flowers in spring. Fruit is typically maple, 1-3" paired nearly horizontally.



Form

Medium sized tree with symmetrical, dense, rounded crown. Profusely and slenderly branched. Slow growing. Needs pruning for single trunk.



Uses

Primarily used in the landscape and in parks. It is also commonly used in bonsai.

Ethnobotany

Native Distribution

Europe and Asia.

Establishment

Requires pruning to maintain single leader.

Growing Conditions and Culture

Mature Size 35'Hx35'Wx3'dbh
 USDA Zone 5-8
 Light Requirements Part to Full Sun

Soils Diverse
 Drought Tolerant? Yes
 Inundation Tolerant? Moderate

Pests/Damaging Agents

Virtually pest free. Insects, scale, and leaf spots all known to attack Hedge Maple, but healthy trees are not usually harmed.

Similar Species

Maple Family
 Members of the Maple family can sometimes be difficult to distinguish. The Hedge Maple is most easily identified by the near horizontal configuration of the fruit. Petioles have milky sap.

Propagation

Seed.

Source(s)

Seed collected from Cornell Plantation, NY.