

Ailanthus altissima

(Tree-of-Heaven)

Tree-of-heaven is an aggressive, fast-growing weed tree with an extensive root system that’s notorious for damaging mortar and building foundations. The roots don’t allow any other plants growth nearby. It is originated from China and Taiwan, but has become naturalized in temperate areas across the globe. It has large compound leaves which has unpleasant smell. The flowers are tiny in spring and followed by a massive amount of papery pink or reddish seeds. It growth anywhere even in disturbed, polluted, urban landscapes. The tree is listed amount the most dangerously invasive trees. Only advisable usage is for reclamation of polluted land or area.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Ailante
Pronunciation: ay-LANTH-us al-TISS-sim-muh
Plant Type: Tree
Origin: China, Taiwan
Heat Zones: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Hardiness Zones: 5, 6, 7, 8
Uses: Shade, Pollution Tolerant / Urban, Reclamation
Size/Shape
Growth Rate: Fast
Tree Shape: Upright
Canopy Symmetry: Symmetrical
Canopy Density: Medium
Canopy Texture: Coarse
Height at Maturity: 15 to 23 m
Spread at Maturity: 10 to 15 meters
Time to Ultimate Height: 5 to 10 Years
Notes
Surface roots can lift sidewalks or interfere with mowing

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistence: Deciduous

Leaf Type: Even Pinnately compound

Leaf Blade: 5 - 10 cm

Leaf Shape: Oval

Leaf Margins: Ciliate

Leaf Textures: Coarse

Leaf Scent: Unpleasant

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Brown

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: 1.5 - 3

Flower Type: Raceme

Flower Sexuality: Diecious (Monosexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: Green

Seasons: Spring, Summer

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Suspected to breakage

Number of Trunks: Single Trunk

Trunk Esthetic Values: Smooth

Fruit

Fruit Type: Samara

Fruit Showiness: True

Fruit Size Range: 3 - 7

Fruit Colors: Yellow, Orange

Seasons: Spring, Summer

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: Yes

Heat Tolerant: No

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Good

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

Water Requirements:

Light Requirements: Full, Part

Management

Toxity: No

Invasive Potential: Yes

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: Needed, to develop a strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: Yes

Surface Rooting: Yes

Life Span: 25-50 years

Edible Parts:

Plant Propagations: Seed, Cutting

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image