

Ostrya carpinifolia

(Hop Hornbeam)

“The Hop Hornbeam is native to the Mediterranean. It grows at medium altitudes in deciduous forests and scrub, open pine forests, and is often found on dry and stony limestone hills. In Lebanon it grows mostly in the northern part of the country at elevations ranging between 300 and 900 meters on the sunny hillsides of the coastal mixed forests of Mount Lebanon. The Hop Hornbeam is a bush-shaped tree that can reach 15 to 20 meters in height. The tree looks attractive in spring, when long bunches of yellow-green flowers droop from the tips of the branches, which are covered with still barely visible young leaves. This decorative shrub with attractive foliage and flowers needs low maintenance. It can be used in small gardens, shaped into a hedge, and even grown successfully as a Bonsai. The Hop Hornbeam is reportedly tough in tolerating harsh conditions and pollution and may thus be good for use in urban locations, where very few other trees can survive and still look pretty, softening the hard-looking edges of the buildings.”

*Trees of Lebanon, 2014, Salma Nashabe Talhouk, Mariana M. Yazbek, Khaled Sleem, Arbi J. Sarkissian, Mohammad S. Al-Zein, and Sakra Abo Eid



Plant Image

Landscape Information

Arabic Name:	قنابية أو مرّان
Plant Type:	Shrub
Origin:	Southern Europe, Mediterranean
Heat Zones:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Hardiness Zones:	7, 8, 9, 10
Uses:	Screen, Hedge, Specimen, Windbreak, Native to Lebanon
Size/Shape	
Growth Rate:	Moderate
Tree Shape:	Columnar
Canopy Symmetry:	Symmetrical
Canopy Density:	Medium
Canopy Texture:	Medium
Height at Maturity:	5 to 8 m
Spread at Maturity:	3 to 5 meters
Time to Ultimate Height:	5 to 10 Years

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistence: Deciduous

Leaf Type: Simple

Leaf Blade: 5 - 10 cm

Leaf Shape: Ovate

Leaf Margins: Dentate

Leaf Textures: Medium

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Yellow

Flower

Flower Showiness: False

Flower Sexuality: Diecious (Monosexual)

Seasons: Spring

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Generally resists breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked

Trunk Esthetic Values: Not Showy

Fruit

Fruit Type: Follicle

Fruit Showiness: True

Fruit Size Range: 3 - 7

Fruit Colors: Yellow, Brown

Seasons: Spring

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: Yes

Heat Tolerant: No

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Poor

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Neutral, Alkaline

Water Requirements: Moderate, Low

Light Requirements: Full, Part

Management

Toxity: No

Invasive Potential: No

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: Needed, to develop a strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Surface Rooting: No

Life Span: 25-50 years

Edible Parts: None

Plant Propagations: Seed, Cutting

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Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image