

# Maackia amurensis

## Asiatic yellowwood, Amur maackia



*Maackia amurensis* (Asiatic yellowwood, Amur maackia) naturally occurs in Korea and Japan, but was discovered in the Amur valley - on the border between North-East China and Russia - by Richard Maack, a Russian naturalist, geographer and anthropologist. The tree grows in the *Pinus koraiensis* forests with other species including *Fraxinus mandshurica*, *Phellodendron amurense* and *Tilia amurensis*. The climate in these regions is hard, ranging from extreme heat and drought (35°C) to extreme cold (-47°C) with different types of earth, from heavy clay to dry rocky ground. These circumstances make the tree very stress-tolerant.

The Asiatic yellowwood is appealing in every season. In spring, it features silver-grey, felty compound leaves, which turn blue-green after budding. In July to August, the tree then blossoms with cream-white, standing, short and thick plumes, which attract bees. The flowers are followed by small, brown legumes. The bark is golden brown and dark brown in a lovely pattern created by the peeling bark. The young twigs bud green and then turn dark brown.

Currently, the *Maackia amurensis* is not used a lot. But with the extreme conditions of its natural habitat, it is a very promising tree for the future. Just like all leguminous trees, the species also absorbs nitrogen. A sunny environment sheltered from the wind with somewhat dry and nutrient-rich soil is preferred. The Asiatic yellowwood is naturally multi-stemmed; standard Asiatic yellowwoods are more rare. The tree cannot tolerate pavement and is therefore best used in park-like situations and gardens.

### SEASONAL COLOURS



### TYPES OF PLANTING

**Tree types:** standard trees, multi-stemmed trees, characteristic trees, solitary shrubs | **Topiary on stem:** multi-stem umbrella

### USE

**Location:** park, central reservation, in containers, large garden, cemetery | **Pavement:** none | **Planting concepts:** Prairie planting

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** flattened spherical | **Crown structure:** open | **Height:** 8 - 12 m | **Width:** 8 - 12 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 5A - 8B

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** slightly tolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, peaty, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil, all soils | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** very dry, dry, moist | **Light requirements:** sun, partial shade | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant:** bees, butterflies | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to dryness

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** raceme, panicle, papilionaceous, striking, standing, big, scented | **Flower colour:** white-green | **Flowering period:** July - August | **Leaf colour:** silvery white emerging leaves, bright green, underside blue-green | **Leaves:** deciduous, ovate, polished, underside hairy, pinnate, Nitrogen fixing | **Autumn colour:** yellow-orange, brown | **Fruits:** pod | **Fruit colour:** brown | **Bark colour:** orange, brown, green | **Bark:** peeling | **Twig colour:** grey-brown | **Twigs:** hairy, vertical branches | **Root system:** shallow