

# Parrotia persica 'Vanessa'

## Persian ironwood 'Vanessa', Ironwood 'Vanessa'



*Parrotia persica* 'Vanessa' (Persian ironwood 'Vanessa') stood out in 1956 among the nut trees of the Royal Nursery Alphons van der Bom in Oudenbosch, the Netherlands. After 35 years, the seedling from 1932 seemed to differ so much from the main species that it was then subcultivated as *Parrotia persica* 'Select'. The selection was only given its final name 'Vanessa' in 1983, after a genus of butterfly. This genus is characterised by the wings with clearly differentiated spots and edges in a different colour, just like the leaf of the *Parrotia persica* 'Vanessa'.

The Persian ironwood 'Vanessa' blossoms early, in February, with small red flowers on the bare wood. The characteristic, leathery, glossy leaf is eye-catching as it emerges: it is green with purple-red edges. In the autumn, these turn a fantastic orange-red. The bark is grey, yellow and green and peels off in a beautiful camouflage pattern.

The Persian ironwood 'Vanessa' is a good climate tree, which tolerates urban conditions extremely well. It is a tree for parks and gardens, central reservations, avenues, containers and roof gardens. The *Parrotia* cultivar can also be planted at car parks and on squares, provided that the growing location is improved and a large tree pit is provided.

### SEASONAL COLOURS



### TYPES OF PLANTING

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

### USE

**Location:** street, avenue, square, car park / parking lot, park, central reservation, in containers, roof garden, large garden, cemetery | **Pavement:** none, open, sealed | **Planting concepts:** Climate planting, Solid planting, Prairie planting

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** ovoid | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 7 - 12 m | **Width:** 4 - 5 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 5A - 8B

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** 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:** dry, moist | **Light requirements:** sun, partial shade | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to salt spray, tolerant to dryness, tolerates air pollution, tolerates heat

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** heads, discrete, pendulous, singular, small | **Flower colour:** red | **Flowering period:** February - March | **Leaf colour:** buds red, dark green | **Leaves:** deciduous, obovate, leathery, polished, undulate | **Autumn colour:** yellow-orange, red-violet | **Fruits:** discrete, capsule | **Fruit colour:** brown | **Bark colour:** yellow-green, grey | **Bark:** peeling | **Twig colour:** olive green | **Twigs:** bare, with lenticels, vertical branches | **Root system:** shallow, slightly branched