

Tree factsheet

images at pages 3, 4, 5

Pyrus communis L. var. *sativa*

taxonomy	
author, year	Linnaeus, 1753
synonym	<i>Pyrus communis</i>
Family	Rosaceae
Eng. Name	Cultivated Pear
Dutch name	Cultuurpeer
subspecies	<i>P. communis</i> subsp. <i>caucasica</i>
varieties	<i>P. communis</i> var. <i>sativa</i> ; hybrid between <i>P. pyraster</i> , <i>P. cordata</i> and <i>P. nivalis</i>
hybrids	the tree is a hybrid itself, not known in the wild
cultivars, frequently used:	
many fruit varieties	by selection many cultivars have been made; 340 in International Standard
'Conference'	most widely cultivated in the Netherlands
'Doyenné du Comice'	second most widely cultivated in the Netherlands
references	Plants for a Future Database; http://www.pfaf.org/index.html
	Weeda, E. J. et al. 2003. Nederlandse Oecologische Flora deel 2
	Maes. 2006. Inheemse Bomen en Struiken
	Boom, B.K. 2000. Nederlandse Dendrologie
	List of names of woody plants, International Standard 2005-2010
morphology	
crown habit	tree, oval
max. height (m)	15
max. dbh (cm)	>50
actual size Europe - UK	
actual size Netherlands	year 1800-1810; d(130) 72; h 15 year 1860-1870; d(130) 96; h 17 year 1890-1900; d(130) 81; h 25
leaf length (cm)	4-8
leaf petiole (cm)	3-5
leaf color upper surface	green
leaf color under surface	green
leaves arrangement	alternate
flowering	May
flowering plant	monoecious
flower	hermaphrodite
flower diameter (cm)	2-4
flower male catkins length (cm)	-
pollination	insects
fruit; length	pome (pitvrucht); 6-20
fruit petiole (cm)	0,5-2
seed; length (cm)	pip (pitje); approx 0,5
seed-wing length (cm)	-
weight 1000 seeds (g)	
seeds ripen	October
seed dispersal	birds

habitat	
natural distribution	not known in the wild
in N.W. Europe since	unknown
natural areas The Netherlands	grassy verges, seeds spread by humans mainly
geological landscape types The Netherlands (Hoek 1997)	
forested areas The Netherlands	orchards on clayish and loamy soils
area Netherlands	6.700 ha
% of forest trees in the Netherlands	not a forest tree
soil type	
pH-KCl	neutral to alkaline
soil fertility	nutrient rich
light	half shade tolerant
① shade tolerance (0=no tolerance to 5=max. tolerance)	2.7
① drought tolerance (0=no tolerance to 5=max. tolerance)	2.7
① waterlogging tolerance (0=no tolerance to 5=max. tolerance)	1.2
plant communities in the Netherlands	Klasse der doornstruwelen: -Rhamno - Prunetea
management	
status Europe	abundant
status The Netherlands	abundant
application	fruit tree
propagation	grafting
regeneration	planting; spontaneous regeneration from seed
optimal gap size for regeneration	-
first plantation Netherlands	unknown
resprouting after cutting	good
growth rate (M.A.I. in $m^3ha^{-1}j^{-1}$)	slow (data unknown)
diseases	<i>Erwinia amylovora</i> – bacterium - Fireblight – Bacterievuur; <i>Venturia pirina</i> – fungus – Blackspot – blad- en takschurft
insects	Cydia pomonella -codling moth larva, feeding on the pear core
wood	
wood	pear (Dutch: peren)
wood structure key characteristics of pores	diffuse porous; pores solitary
vol. mass heartwood (kg/m ³)	700
elastic modulus (N/mm ²)	approx 7800
durability heartwood	fungus 4
heartwood color	light brown
sapwood color	white to pale yellow
contents	
products	turnery, cutlery, furniture, instruments, ebony substitute when blackened
non-timber products	
fruits	raw edible; cooked

① Ülo Niinemets and Fernando Valladares. 2006. Tolerance to shade, drought, and waterlogging of temperate Northern Hemisphere trees and shrubs. Ecological Monographs 76:521–547



young fruit-tree at a wood edge, Wageningen



mature pear as a landscape tree, Hemmen



Old tree in winter, Horst



leaves
photography 5x © Leo Goudzwaard



twigs and thorns



fruits of 'Blake's Pride' photo Wikipedia



flowering tree, Renkum



pear blossom
photography 4x © Leo Goudzwaard



fruits



pear wood
photo © Chris Sonnemans