

Tree factsheet

images at pages 4, 5

***Sorbus aucuparia* L.**

taxonomy	
author, year	Linnaeus, 1753
synonym	<i>Pyrus aucuparia</i>
Family	Rosaceae
Eng. Name	European Mountain Ash; Rowan
Dutch name	Wilde lijsterbes
subspecies	-
varieties	<i>S. aucuparia</i> var. <i>edulis</i> (syn. <i>S. aucuparia</i> var. <i>moravica</i>)
hybrids	<i>S. x arnoldiana</i> (<i>S. aucuparia</i> x <i>S. discolor</i>) <i>S. x thuringiaca</i> (<i>S. aucuparia</i> x <i>S. aria</i>)
cultivars, frequently used:	
'Sheerwater Seedling'	park tree, street tree; narrow crown
'Pendula'	park tree; weeping branches
'Rossica'	park tree; large edible fruits; resembling <i>S. aucuparia</i> var. <i>edulis</i>
'Xanthocarpa'	park tree; yellow fruits
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
morphology	
crown habit	tree or shrub, oval
max. height (m)	5-15
max. dbh (cm)	100
actual size Europe - UK	year; d(0,6) 156; h 9 year; d(0,5) 117; h 11 year; d(0,7) 101; h 13,5
actual size Netherlands	?
leaf length (cm)	9-17
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)	0,8
flower male catkins length (cm)	-
pollination	insects
fruit; length	pome (pitvrucht); 0,8-1
fruit petiole (cm)	0,5-1
seed; length (cm)	pip (pitje); approx 0,5
seed-wing length (cm)	-
weight 1000 seeds (g)	4-5
seeds ripen	October
seed dispersal	birds

habitat	
natural distribution	Europe, Siberia, Caucasus
in N.W. Europe since	0 BC (Maes, p. 306)
natural areas The Netherlands	forests, forest edges
geological landscape types The Netherlands (Hoek 1997)	indifferent
forested areas The Netherlands	sand, peat, loamy soils
area Netherlands	not a forest canopy tree, understory and forest edges
% of forest trees in the Netherlands	<0,1
soil type	indifferent
pH-KCl	acid to neutral
soil fertility	indifferent
light	shade tolerant as a sapling; half shade tolerant when mature
① shade tolerance (0=no tolerance to 5=max. tolerance)	2.7
① drought tolerance (0=no tolerance to 5=max. tolerance)	2.1
① waterlogging tolerance (0=no tolerance to 5=max. tolerance)	1.8
plant communities in the Netherlands	<p>Quercetea robori-petraea – Klasse der eiken- en beukenbossen op voedselarme grond: -Betulo-Quercetum roboris – Berken-Eikenbos -Fago-Quercetum – Beuken-Eikenbos -Deschampsio-Fagetum – Bochtige smele-Beukenbos -Luzulo luzoloides-Fagetum – Veldbies-Beukenbos Lonicera-Rubetea plicati – Brummel-klasse: -Rubetum grati – Ass. van Zoete haarbraam Alnetea glutinosa – Klasse der elzenbroekbossen: -Thelipterido-Alnetum – Moerasvaren-Elzenbroek Vaccinio-Betuletea pubescentis – Klasse der berkenbroekbossen: -Erico-Betuletum pubescentis – Dophei-Berkenbroek -Carici curtae-Betuletum pubescentis – Zompzegge-Berkenbroek Vaccinio-Piceetea – Klasse der naaldbossen: -Dicrano-Juniperetum – Gaffeltandmos-Jeneverbesstruweel -Cladinio-Pinetum sylvestris – Korstmossen-Dennenbos -Leucobryo-Pinetum - Kussentjesmos-Dennenbos Querco-Fagetea – Klasse der eiken- en beukenbossen op voedselrijke grond: -Fraxino-Ulmetum – Essen-Iepenbos -Crataego-Betuletum pubescentis – Meidoorn-Berkenbos -Pruno-Fraxinetum – Vogelkers-Essenbos -Stellario-Carpinetum – Eiken-Haagbeukenbos</p>
management	
status Europe	locally abundant indigenous species
status The Netherlands	abundant indigenous species
application	nature tree; ornamental tree; fruit tree (<i>var. edulis</i>)
propagation	seed
regeneration	planting; natural regeneration from seed
optimal gap size for regeneration	< 1x tree length
first plantation Netherlands	not a plantation tree
resprouting after cutting	good
growth rate (M.A.I. in $m^3ha^{-1}j^{-1}$)	slow, (data unknown)
diseases	<i>Gymnosporangium</i>- roestzwam <i>Erwinia amylovora</i> – bacterium - Fireblight – Bacterievuur
insects	
wood	
wood	mountain ash (Dutch: lijsterbes)
wood structure key characteristics of pores	diffuse porous;
vol. mass heartwood (kg/m ³)	
elastic modulus (N/mm ²)	

durability heartwood	fungus
heartwood color	pale yellow
sapwood color	pale yellow
contents	
products	turnery, cutlery
<i>non-timber products</i>	
fruits	cooked for jellies

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



Sorbus aucuparia leaves



flowering young Mountain Ash, Rhenen
photos 3x ©Leo Goudzwaard



Fruits



fruiting Mountain Ash in Binntal, Switzerland
photo ©Leo Goudzwaard