

Tree Factsheet

Fagus grandifolia

Common Name: American beech

French Name: Hêtre à grandes feuilles

Species Code: FAGR

This **Large** tree can grow up to **20** to **35** metres tall.

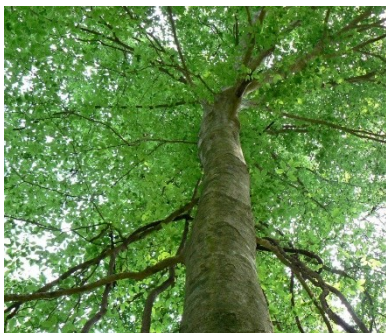


General information:

Fagus grandifolia, the American beech or North American beech, is the species of beech tree native to the eastern United States and extreme southeast Canada. The genus name *Fagus* is Latin for "beech", and the specific epithet *grandifolia* comes from *grandis* "large" and *folium* "leaf". The American beech is native to eastern North America, from Nova Scotia west to southern Ontario in southeastern Canada, west to Wisconsin and south to eastern Texas and northern Florida in the United States.

Description and characteristics:

It is a deciduous tree growing to 20–35 m (66–115 ft) tall, with smooth, silver-gray bark. The leaves are dark green, simple and sparsely-toothed with small teeth that terminate each vein, 6–12 cm (2 1/4–4 3/4 in) long (rarely 15 cm, 6 in), with a short petiole. The winter twigs are distinctive among North American trees, being long and slender (15–20 mm (5/8–3/4 in) by 2–3 mm (0.079–0.118 in)) with two rows of overlapping scales on the buds. Beech buds are distinctly thin and long, resembling cigars; this characteristic makes beech trees relatively easy to identify. The tree is monoecious, with flowers of both sexes on the same tree. The fruit is a small, sharply-angled nut, borne in pairs in a soft-spined, four-lobed husk. It has two means of reproduction: one is through the usual dispersal of seedlings, and the other is through root sprouts (new trees sprout from the roots in different locations).



This factsheet has been compiled by Montreal West Public Works with open source data. The information is provided "as-is": please consult an arborist for further assistance.