

Tolerate a Wide Range of Soil pH

Evergreen Trees

Abies nordmanniana – the Caucasian Fir and *Abies concolor* ‘*Candicans*’ – the White Fir

Araucaria araucana – the Monkey Puzzle Tree

Cedars, including *Cedrus libani* (the Cedar of Lebanon), *Cedrus atlantica* (the Atlas Cedar) and *Cedrus deodara* (the Deodar Cedar) are unfussy about soils and are happy on chalky-alkaline soils.

Libocedrus decurrens (synonym *Calocedrus decurrens*) – the Incense Cedar from which many of the world’s pencils are made is attractive with its mixture of green and yellow foliage.

Quercus ilex – the Holm Oak – tolerant of a range of soils, thrives on sandy soils as well as shallow chalk but hates wet clay. Great for exposed, seaside spots

Taxus baccata – the native Yew – tolerant of a range of soils and thrives on chalk

Deciduous Trees

Acer platanoides – the Norway Maple – and its cultivars such as *A. platanoides* ‘*Crimson King*’ and *Acer platanoides* ‘*Drummondii*’, the Harlequin Maple

Betula pendula – the Silver Birch – and its cultivars such as *Betula pendula* ‘*Golden Beauty*’ with its non-scorching golden leaves, *Betula pendula* ‘*Tristis*’ and *Betula pendula* ‘*Youngii*’, both weeping birches

Betula utilis ‘*Jacquemontii*’ with its stunning white stems

Caragana arborescens ‘*Walker*’ – a small tree with a weeping habit

Cercis squilustrum (Judas Tree) – prefers sandy soils, tolerates a higher pH, but also performs well in neutral to slightly acidic soil. The pinky-magenta flowers appear on the bare branches in spring and are followed by shapely blue-green leaves which open bronze and turn yellow in autumn.

Ficus carica – the Fig – gives its best fruit when fan-trained against a south-facing wall

Ginkgo biloba – the only tree in its family and a survivor from before the time of the dinosaurs, its beautiful mid-green leaves, turn buttery-yellow in autumn. A very unfussy tree.

Larix kaempferi – the Japanese Larch – a deciduous conifer which we offer trained as a Cloud Tree

Parrotia persica – the Persian Ironwood – a beautiful, spreading tree bearing small red flowers on bare stems in early spring and giving great reddish-purple and yellow autumn colour. Tolerates a range of soil acidity, but gives its best autumn colour on acid soils

Rhus typhina and varieties –the Stag’s Horn Sumach – offer excellent autumn colour, is unfussy as to soil as long as it is moist but well-drained.

Evergreen Shrubs

Aucuba japonica – the Spotted Laurel is an unfussy shrub – slow-growing, tolerant of a wide range of soils, happy in the sun where its yellow spots give the best colour, and contented in dry shade where it cheers up dark corners and hedge-bottoms. It can be grown as a hedge itself and either clipped to shape or left to grow more loosely.

Buxus sempervirens – the Box – tolerates a wide range of soil pH, including very alkaline soils

The unfussy Cotoneasters all tolerate even very alkaline soils

Magnolia grandiflora, a truly magnificent plant, tolerates alkaline soils, though like all Magnolias is happiest on neutral to acid soils. It has large, dark green leaves with suede-like, foxy-red undersides and bears large, creamy flowers in late summer and autumn. We offer both bushes which will eventually grow into trees and standards.

Viburnum davidii – is happy on a wide range of soil acidities and particularly well-suited to chalk, though it hates very wet soils. Large, deeply-veined, mid-green leaves. Male and female flowers are on separate plants and female plants bear metallic-blue berries when grown near a male plant

Deciduous Shrubs

Cornus mas – small yellow flowers appear on the bare stems in spring

Corylus avellana – the Hazel or Cob Nut, which produces edible nuts, prefers acidic soil, but is unfussy and is fine grown on heavy clay as well as lighter soils.

Euonymus alatus – the Burning Bush gets its common name from its brilliant red autumn colour and grows well on well-drained soils..

Magnolia 'Stellata' – the Star Magnolia is the smallest Magnolia, growing very slowly to 1.5m after 10 years. The lightly-fragrant, white flowers can persist for several weeks.

Sambucus nigra, including *S. nigra 'Black Lace'* and *S. nigra 'Black Beauty'* – showy, divided, purple-black foliage and large heads of pink flowers – good at the back of the border – an unfussy plant which copes with waterlogged soils and does well on chalk

Climbers

Actinidia chinensis 'Jenny' – self-pollinating Kiwi fruit – a large climber, but a space-saving one as until self-pollinating Kiwi vines came along it was necessary to grow 1 male for every 2 or more female plants. Needs a protected site.

Hydrangea petolaris – the climbing Hydrangea, which is happy in north-facing situations – unfussy and happy on alkaline soils.