

# #Hazel

Hazel  
*Corylus avellana* L.



Leaf



fruit



bark



male flowers

## Characteristics

Mostly found as a shrub, about 4 m high, but with maximum height of about 8 m. Hazel generally grows as an understory species in mixed deciduous forests.

- ❖ The **leaves** are deciduous, rounded, 6-12cm long, 5-9 cm wide, with a double serrate margin and hairy on both sides (in most cases).
- ❖ Hazel **flowers** are grouped in hanging catkins.
- ❖ **Fruit** is hazel nut, green at the beginning, brown when mature, up to 2 cm long and 1.5 cm wide and partially enclosed in a leafy husk.
- ❖ The **bark** is greyish or reddish with white spots and horizontal lines.



## Distribution

Central, western and southern Europe and somewhat eastern Europe. Not present in the northern parts of Scandinavia and the rest of northern Europe.



### Don't mistake with

*Carpinus betulus* L., European hornbeam that has less rounded, more ovate leaves, with uniform serrate margin. Its bark is grey and without white spots. Fruit is much smaller (0.3-0.6 cm) and partially covered with three-lobed leaf.



Leaf



fruit



bark