



Blue Beech, Musclewood, American Hornbeam

Carpinus caroliniana

Salicaceae

Description

The Blue Beech is also called Musclewood due to the appearance of muscles on its trunk and branches. It's one of the few trees hardy to North Dakota that can survive in full shade. It turns a brilliant yellow, orange, red in the fall.

General Information

Zone: 3-9	Soil Texture: Clay, Loam	Fall Color: Orange, Red, Yellow
Height: 20-35'	Soil pH: 4.0-7.4	Bloom Color: Green
Width: 20-35'	Exposure: Full Sun to Full Shade	Bloom Time: May
Habit: Oval, Rounded	Water Needs: Average	Fragrance: None
Growth Rate: >12" per year	Soil Drainage: Well-Poorly Drained	Fruit Color: Green
	Other: Flood	Fruiting Time: Fall
	Attributes: Tolerant	Fruit Flavor: Inedible
		Attracts:

Resources:

[Plants A to Z: Find Plant Names by Letter \(thespruce.com\)](https://thespruce.com/plants-a-to-z-find-plant-names-by-letter-1132041)
[Find a Plant | NC Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox \(ncsu.edu\)](https://www.ncsu.edu/ncsu/extension/gardener-plant-toolbox/)
[Trees and Plants | The Morton Arboretum](https://www.mortonarboretum.org/)
[WSU PNW Plants](https://pnw.wsu.edu/)

[The Tree Guide at arborday.org](https://arborday.org/)
[Woody Plants Catalog | The UFOR Nursery & Lab \(umn.edu\)](https://www.woodyplantscatalog.com/)
[Plant Finder \(missouribotanicalgarden.org\)](https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/)
[N.D. Tree Handbook \(ndsu.edu\)](https://www.ndsu.edu/)