

Corkscrew Hazel Tree (*Corylus Avellana 'Contorta'*). Also known as 'Harry Lauder', a Scottish singer who was often seen carrying a stick made from the branches of the tree. It was discovered in about 1863 in a hedgerow in Gloucestershire, England. The highly contorted and twisted stems make it a very attractive specimen in the garden, especially in the winter and spring when the foliage has fallen and the yellow male catkins appear. The small, red, female flowers are inconspicuous.

Indian Bean Tree (Catalpa Bignonioides). Native to south eastern USA. The 'Indian' part of its name relates to the botanical name Catalpa, after the native American tribe of North and South Carolina, where the tree was first recorded. The tree has large heart shaped nectar secreting leaves. Clusters of trumpet shaped white flowers with yellow and purple flecks, in addition, to slender bean-like or cigar-like seedpods.

Mount Fuji Cherry Tree (*Prunus Serrulata 'Shirotae'*). This tree was introduced to Britain from Japan in the early 1900s. A small spreading tree, it has a flat topped crown and dazzling, scented white blossoms. It is one of the first Japanese cherries to bloom in spring. The leaves are midgreen with a serrated edge, turning yellow and orange in autumn.

Empress Tree (*Paulownia Tomentosa*). Native to central and western China. It is an extremely fast-growing tree with seeds that disperse readily. The very fragrant flowers are large and violet-blue in colour. The fruit is a dry egg-shaped capsule 3–4 cm long. These were used as a packing material by Chinese porcelain exporters in the 19th century, before the development of polystyrene packaging. Packing cases would often leak or burst open in transit and scatter the seeds along rail tracks. The magnitude of the numbers of seeds used for packaging, has allowed the species to be viewed as an invasive species, notably in Japan and the eastern United States.

Yoshino Cherry Tree (*Prunus X Yedoensis*). Native to the Yoshino District in Nara, Japan. Discovered in 1868 and introduced to Britain in 1907. A small deciduous tree that can reach 12 m in height producing attractive white/pale pink flowers in spring. The green leaves emerge after the blossom, and show shades of yellow and gold in autumn.

Lacebark/Ribbonwood Tree (*Hoheria*). This compact evergreen shrub is native to New Zealand. The name lacebark comes from the lace-like fibrous inner bark layer. In the summer months, the tree is particularly striking with the white flowers contrasting against its dark green, glossy leaves. This particular species has flowers that are hermaphrodite (has both male and female organs).

Olive Tree (Olea Europaea). Traditionally found in the Mediterranean. Olive trees have stunning silver grey foliage and gnarled bark on its older specimens. Tiny cream white flowers are produced in summer. They can live for thousands of years. Carbon-dating has put some of the oldest trees at approximately 2,000 years old. The first olives appear when the tree is between 3 and 7 years old, however, olive trees need a lot of sun in order to produce fruit. The olive branch is a symbol of peace, associated with ancient Greece and Rome.

Kobus Magnolia Tree (Magnolia Kobus). Native to Japan and Korea and commonly known as Kobushi Magnolia. The tree was first brought to England by famous explorer Charles Maries in 1879. Magnolia Kobus is a slender deciduous tree that can grow up to 10m tall, with obovate leaves and fragrant white flowers in spring. The fruit of the Kobus grow in groups of small red seeds. The name of the tree comes from the Japanese word 'kobushi' meaning fist, in reference to its flower bud shape, resembling a small fist.

Smoke Tree/ Smoke Bush (Cotinus Coggygria). The species is native to a large area from southern Europe, eastwards through Asia to northern China. The maroon/reddish flowers grow in hazy plumes, giving the tree a shimmering or smoking effect. It was introduced to Britain and Ireland in the 19th century.

Lilytree (Magnolia/Yulan denudata). Native to China considered a symbol of purity in the Tang dynasty, found in Buddhist temple gardens and the emperor's palace. Magnolia can be deciduous or evergreen trees or shrubs, with large, showy, fragrant flowers, often opening before the leaves, and sometimes followed by colourful cone-like fruit. Although, not wildly planted, it was introduced to Britain and Ireland in the 1780s.

Quince Tree (*Cydonia Oblonga*). Quince is native to the Hyrcanian Forest, south of the Caspian Sea. Pale pink white flowers are nectar and pollen rich, popular with bees and pollinators in spring. It bears a golden yellow fruit that looks like a cross between a pear and apple. They spread to Britain and then to Ireland in the 16th century.

Mulberry Tree (*Morus*). Mulberries were brought to Northern Europe in Roman times. They are fast growing when young, and can grow to 24 metres tall. The Mulberry produces berries when the tree is seven years old and they look rather like a loganberry. Mulberry leaves, particularly those of the white mulberry, are ecologically important as the sole food source of the silkworm.

Medlar Tree (Mespilus germanica). Native to south-eastern Europe and central Asia. The Medlar has been cultivated for thousands of years and was an important fruit plant in ancient Greece and Rome. The fruit it produces in winter, is eaten when 'bletted'. Medlar's popularity revived in England during the Victorian era, when affluent households used it to create jellies and liquors for Christmas time. In recent years, Medlar has been making a quiet comeback among foodies interested in forgotten or unusual fruits.

Apple Trees (various). A variety of apple trees including:

Malus 'Lord Lambourne' Malus 'Sturmer Pippin' Malus 'Sunset' Malus 'Ellisons Orange'