

Maidenhair Tree

Ginkgo biloba



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Description

Typical height: 12-14 metres

Typical width: 6-8 metres

Growth rate: Slow

Typical form: Narrow, domed.
Ascending branches.

Facts and Trivia

A long-lived tree with many in Asia thought to be over 1000 years of age.

It is the last species of a genus that has wider representation in the fossil record, which dates back to the Jurassic period. Though Ginkgo biloba is now endangered and isolated to isolated areas in China, it was more widespread in the past, and the leaf fossil of another Ginkgo species has been found in Leongatha in East Gippsland, Australia.

They are dioecious, individual trees being either male or female and unlike nearly all other trees they reproduce with motile sperm.

One of the oldest in Australia can be seen at Geelong Botanic Gardens.

Origin

China

Characteristics

Fan shaped leaves, bright green in summer turning a vivid yellow/gold in autumn. Bark is a grey-brown with darker furrows. Inconspicuous green flowers borne in catkins in spring.

Tolerances

High tolerance to drought, soil compaction, wind, and waterlogging. Virtually pest free.