

Fagus sylvatica Dawyck

Fastigate Beech



July 2013

*Fagus Dawyck 6-7m feathered
(with Fagus Dawyck Gold far left)*

Fagus Dawyck is a great alternative to the more commonly planted fastigate oaks and hornbeam. It originated from Dawyck, Scotland circa 1850. A beautiful medium sized (15-20m) deciduous tree with a very columnar form, which rarely exceeds more than 3 metres width, is ideal for specimen planting, wide verges or to form an avenue.

The leaves are dark green, ovate and glossy, the bark smooth and grey. Inconspicuous flowers in spring are followed by spiny fruits in the autumn.

Fagus Dawyck will thrive in nearly all fertile, well drained soils but is not keen on overly exposed locations.

It is often mistakenly called Fagus sylvatica 'Fastigiata'

Fagus Dawyck Gold (Golden Fastigate Beech)

Has the same attributes as Fagus Dawyck but with golden yellow foliage in spring, turning pale green in summer then glowing shades of yellow in autumn.

Fagus Dawyck Purple (Purple Fastigate Beech)

A slightly narrower but less dense variety still growing to the same height. Spring foliage is bright red, purple in summer and then brown in autumn. The best foliage colour comes when planted in full sun.

Plant Profile

Name: Fagus sylvatica Dawyck, Dawyck Gold & Dawyck Purple

Common Name: Fastigate Beech

Family: Fagaceae

Height: 15-20m

Demands: Grows well in most fertile, well drained soils. Not tolerant of very exposed or coastal sites.

Foliage: Glossy, elliptical leaves or green, gold or purple

Flower: Inconspicuous in spring

Fruit: Spiny 'beech nuts' in autumn



Autumn foliage of Fagus sylvatica Dawyck Gold

Fagus sylvatica Dawyck

Fastigiata Beech

Deepdale

The semi-drying oil obtained from the seed can be used as a fuel for lighting, a lubricant and for polishing wood



Fagus sylvatica Dawyck Gold 3-4m in summer



Golden spring foliage



Specimen *Fagus Dawyck Purple*



Beautiful red spring foliage



Purple leaves in summer