



# Deepdale *Fraxinus angustifolia* Raywood

*Raywood Ash / Claret Ash*



*Autumn colouring on Fraxinus 'Raywood'*

*Fraxinus angustifolia* 'Raywood' (also known as *Fraxinus oxycarpa* 'Raywood') is a medium sized, fast growing, deciduous tree.

It has a narrow, upright crown when young and broadens into a full, rounded canopy as it matures.

The most alluring feature of this tree is the foliage. Throughout the summer, the narrow, serrated leaves are dark green and glossy providing dappled shade below. They really come into their own in the Autumn though when they turn brilliant hues of purple and wine-red.

*Fraxinus* 'Raywood' is also a good tree for urban and avenue planting. Its uniformity and tolerance to soil compaction make it a great choice. It also has a greater tolerance for dry soils than *Fraxinus excelsior* (Common Ash). The drawback however, is that the branches can be brittle and prone to breaking.

The tree originates from south Australia around about 1910 and was grown at a property called 'Raywood'. It was not introduced to the UK until 1928.

## Plant Profile

**Name:** *Fraxinus angustifolia* 'Raywood'

**Common Name:** Claret Ash or Raywood Ash

**Family:** Oleaceae

**Height:** Approximately 15m height

**Demands:** Ideal on a well drained soil but tolerant of a wide range of conditions. Very good in urban environments

**Foliage:** Slender, dark-green leaves throughout summer and spectacular Autumn colouring

**Flowers:** Inconspicuous

**Fruit:** Does not produce fruit



*Narrow, dark green leaves in summer*



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Raywood Ash / Claret Ash



Originating in Southern Australia this tree did not reach British shores until 1928



Purple and red autumn foliage



Dark brown buds - unlike the black buds of Common Ash



*Fraxinus* 'Raywood' 20-25-30cm girth