

Botanical name

# CELTIS AUSTRALIS

## European Nettle Tree

Common name

### DESCRIPTION

**Typical height:**  
10-12 metres

**Typical width:**  
10-12 metres

**Growth rate:**  
Slow to moderate

**Typical form:**  
Broad-domed, spreading branches.

### ORIGIN

Southern Europe North Africa, and Asia Minor

### FACTS AND TRIVIA

Fruit is sweet and edible. Supposedly the 'lotus of the ancients' which are described in Homer's Odyssey. Remains of fruit stones as well as wood fragments have been discovered in iron and bronze age archaeological sites in modern day Israel and Iran proving that the tree has been used in food and construction by humans for at least 2000 years.

Popular with birds and mammals.

### CHARACTERISTICS

- Medium deciduous tree.
- Smooth grey bark.
- Alternating leaves are narrow and sharp-toothed on margins.
- Foliage turns yellow in autumn.
- Small, green flowers, either singly or in small clusters followed by a small, dark-purple berry-like drupe.

### TOLERANCES

- High drought tolerance.



Large



Deciduous

