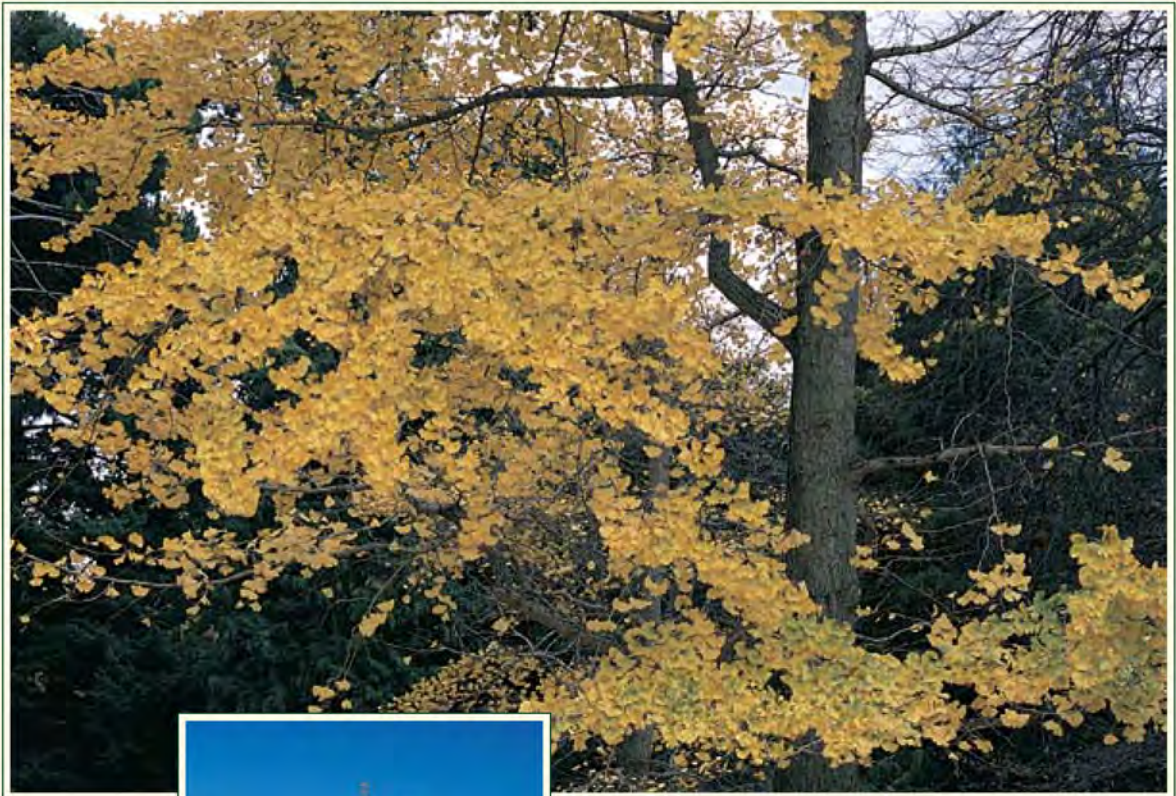


# THE GINKGO

## GINKGO BILOBA - maidenhair tree

This Jurassic era tree first appeared 300 million years ago. It is unknown in the wild state, surviving in Chinese and Japanese Buddhist temple grounds. The leaf shape and vein pattern resembles that of the maidenhair fern species. The leaves emerge as a bright yellow green becoming a rich dark green throughout the growing season. The fan shaped leaves turn golden yellow in autumn.



## CULTIVATION

A very long lived tree which has a upright central leader, narrow with short branches radiating from the central stem. The crown becomes broader with age or if subject to adverse conditions such as strong winds. It will tolerate a wide range of soil conditions, but if not happy will produce short growth shoots.

Tolerant of pollution and severe pruning it is often used as a street tree in Japan. The fruits while very pungent are prized by Asian cultures and are pickled or roasted as a delicacy. The tree has potential for nut production or for the harvesting of the leaves for the extraction of herbal remedies.