

HAWTHORN (*Crataegus monogyna*)

The Hawthorn, with its small many-lobed serrated-edged leaves is familiar everywhere as a hedge plant, and in a wild state grows to a small tree some 20 feet high, with rough brown bark. When they first open on the spiny branches in early April, the leaves are bright emerald colour; but they darken through the summer and change to a dull brown before falling late in October. The flowers appear after the leaves, in conspicuous white or pink clusters, heavily scented and known as May blossom. The dull red fruit, or haw, is borne in clusters and ripens in November. An edible jelly may be made from it.



[1] “British Woodland Trees”, H L Edlin, 1949, p60.