

## Corylus - Growing Guide

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#### *Hazel*

*Corylus avellana*, the common hazel or cobnut, is obviously a native tree in our woodland and hedgerows. Traditionally, this multi stemmed small tree, was coppiced for firewood and grown also for its edible nuts which today have more appeal to squirrels than in a human diet. Hazels provide a key source of straight basal new growth shoots which can be used in stick making and the pendant yellow catkins are a pleasant sight from winter into spring.



*Corylus avellana*

Growing on the drive, just across from the garden entrance at Burncoose, are two of these improved forms:

*Corylus avellana* 'Contorta', the corkscrew hazel, has strongly twisted shoots and produces a wonderfully contorted tree to be admired in winter. These plants are often grafted onto ordinary hazels so initially you need to be careful to remove any fresh young (common) hazel growth from below the graft itself. The contorted newer growth and branches look superb as part of a winter flower arrangement especially with some catkins.



Coryllana 'Contorta'



C. avellana 'Contorta'



C. maxima 'Purpurea'



Corylus maxima 'Purpurea'



Corylus avellana 'Kentish Cob'



Corylus avellana 'Kentish Cob'



Corylus avellana 'Red  
Majestic'



Corylus avellana 'Red  
Majestic'



C. avellana 'Aurea'



Corylus avellana 'Aurea'

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