



# FORSYTHIA X INTERMEDIA

Fam. Oleaceae

## DESCRIPTION

Fairly informal shrub that can grow up to 1–3 m. It tolerates cold and has a very coarse character. This plant variety prefers sunny or partially shaded locations.

## LEAVES

The leaves are opposite, jagged, lanceolate and bright green.

## FRUITS

The fruits are pods.

## HABITAT

It is a deciduous shrub native to Asia, in particular, China and Japan.

## STEM

Erect and scarcely branched, the branches have showy lenticels very useful to recognise the shrub during the vegetative dormancy phase.

## DISTRIBUTION

This plant is grown throughout Italy in parks or large gardens as an isolated specimen; in smaller gardens, it can be cultivated in mixed hedges.

## FLOWERS

Similar to a bellflower with 4 petals bound to the base, the flowers are very numerous, yellow-gold with a short tubulous corolla. They grow in bundles of 2-3 on 1-year-old branches. In mild-climate regions, flowering begins in late January and ends in early April. In Northern Italy, instead, where winter is more severe, the plant begins to bloom between late February and March.

## INTERESTING FACTS

*Forsythia intermedia* is a hybrid between *F. suspensa* (with a striking flowering) and *F. viridissima* (with more elegant foliage).

## ROOTS

The root system is very robust and deep.

