HAWTHORN (Crataegus monogyna)

The tall Hawthorn shown here is immediately behind the millennium tree nursery wire fence. Hawthorns can grow up to 18m but as they are commonly used to form hedges around field they rarely reach this height. The branches are reddish-brown when young, but later become ash-grey'. Twigs have numerous thorns up to 15mm. The shiny leaves are alternate, 1.5 - 4.5cm long and one and a half times as long as broad divided into 3 - 7 lobes reaching more than halfway to the midrib. The lower lateral veins of the leaves are curved backwards, differing from those of the Midland Hawthorn (*Crataegus oxyacanthoides*) which all point forwards. The wood is hard, dense and heavy and is suitable for wood carving. Its main uses have been for firewood. Hedge stakes & cudgels.



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Fruit & leaves. The red fruits each contain one seed.



Flowers and leaves.



Bark. Bark is pale grey to brown cracking into small plates.

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