



LACEBARK ELM

Ulmus parvifolia

Native Range

Lacebark elm (true Chinese elm) should not be confused with Siberian elm which is commonly called Chinese elm. It is a totally different species. Lacebark elm was introduced to this country from China.

Mature Size

It is a medium-sized tree with a round to oval crown. It has a moderate growth rate reaching a height of 35 to 40 feet and a crown spread of 30 to 35 feet.

Growth Rate

It grows about 12 to 18 inches per year.

Leaves, Stems and Fruit

Leaves are simple, alternately arranged on the stem and are 1 to 1 ½ inches long with a toothed edge. They have a medium to dark green color. Young twigs are slender, reddish-brown turning gray-brown with age. Bark is rough and flaky. Male and female flowers are borne on the same tree with seeds ripening in the fall.

Use

Windbreaks

Lacebark elm is an excellent windbreak tree. Since it is not a large tree, its growth pattern and foliage characteristics make it ideal for planting between the shrub and tall center row of a multi-row windbreak.

Firewood

Lacebark elm is a good firewood species especially on poorer sites. The wood provides moderate heat yield.

Adaptation

Statewide.

Soil

Lacebark elm is drought resistant. It can be planted on a variety of sites throughout the state.

Spacing

In row windbreak spacing ranges from 10 to 15 feet and between row spacing in multiple row

plantings is about 20 feet. In firewood plantings, the spacing can vary from 4 x 9 feet to 6 x 12 feet.

Culture

One-year-old, bare-root seedlings, 18 to 24 inches tall are used in plantings. With good weed and grass control, a high rate of survival can be expected.

Pests

Lacebark elm has few pest problems. It is resistant to elm leaf beetle and is also highly resistant to Dutch elm disease and elm yellows (phloem necrosis). Grasshoppers occasionally are a problem.