

Ulmus minor 'Variegata'

(Silver Elm)



Notes

The Silver Elm is an impressive shade tree with a graceful open habit.

It has aesthetic qualities well worth considering for specimen planting in larger parks and gardens, as well as stately avenues in streets where space allows.

Above: Detail of variegated foliage.

Above: Silver Elm specimen planting in Benalla Botanic Gardens.

Origin	Cultivar: Variegated cultivar of <i>U. minor</i> , origin France in 1770s.
Habit	Narrow-domed to pyramidal, graceful, open form with ascending branches, spreading with age. Up to 20-25m in height.
Description	Green, ovate, double serrate leaves with variable white flecks and blotches. The variegation is quite stable. The leaf colour in autumn is yellow. Soft textured, open canopy. Rough, fissured, ash to dark-grey bark. The flowers are of no ornamental interest. Fruit are single-winged samaras
Tolerances	Silver Elm is adaptable to a wide range of soil types. Moderately frost and wind tolerant. Can be prone to Elm Leaf Beetle infestation and potential for Dutch Elm Disease.
Root space	Based on a mature size specimen of Silver Elm with a trunk diameter between 40cm to 60cm a tree would require approximately 28m ³ to approximately 40m ³ root volume (Urban, 2008).
Availability	Common. Bare root and advanced stock available.
Uses & management	Silver elm is an impressive tree that, despite the threat of elm associated pests and diseases, is deserved of much more use in Australian landscapes than has been the case. Silver elm is suitable for use in larger parks, properties and gardens and as a street tree where space permits. It can provide a graceful, lighter silvery-grey contrast to otherwise typically green landscapes. Does not tend to sucker as profusely as other elm species and varieties. Silver Elm is adaptable to a wide range of soil types. Prefers slightly fertile, well-drained sandy soils in full sun, and with occasional watering. Can be sold under the incorrect name <i>Ulmus procera</i> 'Argenteomarginata'.



Reference

Urban, J. (2008) Up by roots. *Healthy soils and trees in the built environment*. International Society of Arboriculture.

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