

Tilia americana 'Moltkei'
Moltkei American Linden



Tilia americana 'Moltkei', commonly known as Von Moltke's lime, was introduced around 1883 by the Späth nursery in Berlin, Germany, and was named after Field Marshal Von Moltke, who planted a specimen near the Späth residence in 1888. Regarding its origin, this selection was long considered to be a hybrid between *Tilia americana* and *Tilia tomentosa* (or sometimes *Tilia tomentosa* 'Petiolaris'). According to current insights, however, it is classified as a cultivar of *Tilia americana*. The tree is fast growing and large, with a majestic appearance. Mature specimens typically reach twenty five to thirty meters in height and fifteen to twenty meters in width, forming a broad ovate crown with a strong, continuous central leader.

The leaves of Von Moltke's lime are large and matte glossy dark green on the upper surface, with a light green underside covered in grayish hairs. In late July, hanging clusters of fragrant, pale yellow flowers appear, highly attractive to bees and other insects. After flowering, round, ribbed and woody fruits develop. On young trees the bark is smooth and gray, but with age it becomes irregularly and shallowly furrowed. The twigs are also smooth and olive green, often showing a reddish brown tint on the sun exposed side.

Tilia americana 'Moltkei' is very well suited for large planting sites as a solitary tree or as an avenue tree in parks and large gardens, where its full and impressive crown can develop freely. The tree performs best on fertile, well drained soils. Cultivar 'Moltkei' shows little susceptibility to aphids and is a valuable nectar source for bees, which makes it particularly popular with beekeepers.

TYPES OF PLANTING
Tree types: standard trees, shade trees

USE
Location: avenue, park, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, countryside | **Pavement**: none | **Planting concepts**: Eco planting, Landscape planting, shade-tolerant

CHARACTERISTICS
Crown shape: wide egg-shaped | **Crown structure**: semi-open | **Height**: 25 - 30 m | **Width**: 15 - 20 m | **Winter hardiness zone**: 5B - 8B

ASPECTS
Wind: tolerant to wind | **Soil**: loess, sabulous clay, peaty, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil, all soils | **Nutrient level**: moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level**: moist | **Light requirements**: sun, partial shade, shade | **pH range**: acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant**: bees, butterflies, nectar value 5, pollen value 5 | **Extreme environments**: tolerates air pollution, limited to rare infestation by lice, curiosity

PLANTKENMERKEN
Flowers: corymbose, striking, pendulous, flower-scented | **Flower colour**: pale yellow | **Flowering period**: July - July | **Leaf colour**: dark green, underside pale green | **Leaves**: deciduous, orbicular, cordate, big, matt polished, underside hairy, serrate | **Autumn colour**: yellow | **Fruits**: discrete, nut | **Fruit colour**: grey | **Bark colour**: grey | **Bark**: slightly furrowed | **Twig colour**: olive green | **Twigs**: bare, pendulous | **Root system**: deep, extensive, highly branched, central root

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