

# *Tilia cordata* 'Winter Orange'

## 'Winter Orange' little-leaf Linden



*Tilia cordata* 'Winter Orange' is a striking cultivar of the small-leaved lime, selected for its distinctive orange to reddish twigs in winter. Even from a distance, these brightly colored shoots cause the tree to stand out, giving it exceptional ornamental value during the otherwise largely bare season. *Tilia cordata* 'Winter Orange' was discovered in 1977 in a wild population and introduced to the market in 1988 by nursery J. Mouws from Wernhout, the Netherlands. This slow-growing lime remains smaller than the species, reaching a height of approximately five to ten meters and a width of about five to six meters. The densely branched crown is broadly ovate to rounded in shape.

The leaves of *Tilia cordata* 'Winter Orange' are round with a heart-shaped base and a pointed tip, matte dark green on the upper surface with a bluish-green underside. In autumn, the foliage turns a striking butter-yellow, creating an additional ornamental effect and providing a beautiful contrast with the orange-red twigs. Small-leaved lime 'Winter Orange' flowers in June with strongly fragrant, yellow-white blossoms that attract bees and other pollinating insects. Small, round, nut-like fruits develop after flowering. The bark is gray-brown and smooth on young trees, becoming lightly furrowed with age.

*Tilia cordata* 'Winter Orange' is little affected by aphids and honeydew and tolerates paving, drought, and sea winds well. For these reasons, it is particularly suitable for streets, parks, green strips, and gardens, where its winter coloration adds valuable visual interest. An additional advantage is that this tree is native. The selection also lends itself well to pruning into attractive multi-stem forms or training as an espalier tree. It grows on virtually all soil types, but performs best on fertile, well-drained soils. The combination of vivid winter stem color, compact growth habit, and ecological value as a nectar source makes *Tilia cordata* 'Winter Orange' a popular choice for green infrastructure and ornamental urban planting.

### TYPES OF PLANTING

**Tree types:** standard trees, multi-stemmed trees | **Topiary on stem:** block, pyramid, cone, pollard, multi-stem umbrella

### USE

**Location:** avenue, park, central reservation, in containers, roof garden, large garden, cemetery, countryside, ecological zone, coastal area | **Pavement:** none, open, sealed | **Planting concepts:** food forest, Landscape planting, shade-tolerant

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** rounded, wide egg-shaped | **Crown structure:** dense | **Height:** 5 - 10 m | **Width:** 5 - 6 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 4A - 8B

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** tolerant to wind, tolerant to coastal 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:** dry, moist | **Light requirements:** sun, partial shade, shade | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant:** bees, nectar value 5, pollen value 5 | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to dryness, limited to rare infestation by lice

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** corymbose, striking, standing, flower-scented | **Flower colour:** pale yellow | **Flowering period:** June - July | **Leaf colour:** green, underside blue-green | **Leaves:** deciduous, cordate, small | **Autumn colour:** yellow | **Fruits:** discrete, drupe | **Fruit colour:** grey | **Bark colour:** grey-brown | **Bark:** slightly furrowed | **Twig colour:** orange, orange-red | **Twigs:** finely branched, short shoots | **Root system:** extensive, many hair roots, central root

