

Tilia platyphyllos 'Delft'
Delft Large-leaved Lime



Tilia platyphyllos 'Delft' (large-leaved lime 'Delft') was selected around 1950 from an avenue planting in Delft by Koninklijke Boomkwekerijen Alphons van der Bom from Oudenbosch, the Netherlands, and introduced to the market in 1957. It is a tree with a uniform, broadly conical crown that gradually develops into a broad ovate to oval shape with age. Selection 'Delft' grows to approximately twenty to twenty-five meters in height and about twelve to fifteen meters in width.

The leaves of large-leaved lime 'Delft' are large, heart-shaped, and hairy, with the serrated leaf margins typical of *Tilia platyphyllos*. The upper surface is a fresher green than that of the species, while the underside is similar: light green and hairy. In June, tree 'Delft' blooms with fragrant yellow flowers arranged in pendulous clusters of three to five flowers. These blossoms are rich in nectar and pollen and attract many bees and butterflies. After flowering, gray-haired, inversely ovate nutlets develop. The bark is gray and initially smooth, later becoming furrowed on older trees. Young twigs are green. The tree tends to form double leaders, making formative and corrective pruning advisable at a young age.

Like all large-leaved limes, *Tilia platyphyllos* 'Delft' is more demanding with regard to soil conditions than *Tilia cordata*, but this cultivar can grow on virtually all soil types provided the soil is not excessively wet. Wind is not a problem for this tree. A major additional advantage of large-leaved lime 'Delft' is its near immunity to aphids. It is recommended not to plant this tree in paved conditions, but rather to use it in broad green strips, avenues, parks, and large gardens. In these settings, its uniform, broad pyramidal crown provides shade and supplies nectar and pollen for insects. Due to the intensive corrective pruning required during the juvenile phase, planting older specimens is recommended.

SEASONAL COLOURS



jan feb mar apr mei jun jul aug sep okt nov dec

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, feathered trees, shade trees

USE

Location: street, avenue, square, park, central reservation, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, countryside, ecological zone, windbreak | **Pavement**: none, open | **Planting concepts**: Eco planting, Landscape planting, shade-tolerant

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: wide egg-shaped, wide pyramidal | **Crown structure**: semi-open | **Height**: 16 - 25 m | **Width**: 12 - 15 m | **Winter hardiness zone**: 4A - 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**: dry, 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, not affected by infestations of lice

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: corymbose, striking, flower-scented | **Flower colour**: yellow | **Flowering period**: June - June | **Leaf colour**: green, buds bright green, underside pale green | **Leaves**: deciduous, cordate, big, underside hairy | **Autumn colour**: yellow | **Fruits**: discrete, nut | **Fruit colour**: brown | **Bark colour**: grey | **Bark**: furrowed, smooth, later on rough | **Twig colour**: green | **Twigs**: bare, finely branched, short shoots | **Root system**: deep, extensive, slightly branched, central root

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