

Ulmus 'Columella'
Columella Elm



Ulmus 'Columella' ('Columella' elm) is a very narrowly columnar tree with a semi-open crown. This vigorous elm reaches an ultimate height of fifteen to twenty metres and three to six metres wide. *Ulmus* 'Columella' belongs to the fourth generation of elms of Dutch elm professor Hans Heybroek - of the Dutch Forestry Research Station 'De Dorschkamp' in Wageningen, the Netherlands. This elm was sown in 1967 and introduced in 1989 as one of the Wageningen five. It is a seedling of *Ulmus* 'Plantijn' and thus a triple hybrid between *Ulmus glabra, Ulmus minor* and *Ulmus wallichiana.* Like the other four of the Wageningen five, the tree is a reference to someone who had a significant impact on agriculture and forestry: Roman agronomist Lucius Junius Moderatus Columella.

The leaf of *Ulmus* 'Columella' is small, glossy, dark green and crimped. The foliage emerges late and is then light green, the autumn colour is yellow and not particularly spectacular. The leaves stay on the tree for a long time however! The light green flowers appear in March to April and are arranged in dense clusters on long stems. The fruits consist of flat, round to oval nuts with a kind of white 'papery' wings, arranged in dense clusters together and later turn brown. The bark is smooth and light grey; as it matures it becomes dark grey with dark grooves.

Provided it is planted on its own roots, *Ulmus* 'Columella' is a healthy tree for a range of different conditions. Its narrow form makes it a good vertical accent plant in urban areas: from streets and avenues to squares and car parks. This selection is a great choice in landscapes as a windbreak in particular. *Ulmus* 'Columella' tolerates a very wide range of soils, tolerates wind and paving and - last but not least - is one of the most resistant elms to Dutch elm disease.

SEASONAL COLOURS



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

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, feathered trees | **Topiary on stem**: beehive, block, cylinder, cone | **Topiary**: cylinder, column

USE

Location: street, avenue, square, car park / parking lot, park, central reservation, in containers, large garden, small garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, windbreak, bioswale, coastal area | **Pavement**: none, open, sealed | **Planting concepts**: Solid planting, urban planting

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: columnar, narrow oval | **Crown structure**: semi-open | **Height**: 15 - 20 m | **Width**: 3 - 6 m | **Winter hardiness zone**: 5A - 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**: moist, wet | **Light requirements**: sun | **pH range**: acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Extreme environments**: tolerant to salt spray, tolerates air pollution, tolerant to short-term flooding, resistant to Dutch elm disease 5

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: raceme, discrete, small | **Flower colour**: pale green | **Flowering period**: March - April | **Leaf colour**: dark green, buds bright green | **Leaves**: deciduous, ovoid, polished, rough, serrate, undulate, curly | **Autumn colour**: yellow | **Fruits**: striking, rich fruit yield, winged, raceme, nut | **Fruit colour**: brown | **Bark colour**: grey, black | **Bark**: furrowed | **Twig colour**: brown | **Twigs**: bare, vertical branches, finely branched, short shoots | **Root system**: deep, central root, on own root