

Ulmus 'Homestead'

Homestead Elm



Ulmus 'Homestead' ('Homestead' elm) is a cross from 1970 from research scientist A.M. Townsend of the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, United States. Dutch elm professor Hans Heybroek sent him a complex hybrid of clone 215 (*Ulmus pumila* 'Pinnato-ramosa' x *Ulmus minor* 'Hoersholmiensis') and *Ulmus* x *hollandica* 'Commelin'. *Ulmus pumila* was pollinated using pollen from this hybrid. The resulting cross, now known as 'Homestead', was released in 1984. *Ulmus* 'Homestead' forms a pyramidal crown up to twenty metres tall, and the lowest branches curve outwards with maturity. The crown is twelve metres wide, oval in shape and semi-open.

The double-serrated leaf of 'Homestead' which has a hairy underside emerges bright green in the spring, turns dark green in summer and finishes off straw yellow in autumn. The red-violet flowers of 'Homestead' are pollinated by the wind in early March; winged, pendulous, green nuts are produced following the blossom. *Ulmus* 'Homestead' has dark grey, deeply grooved bark and brown to grey, smooth branches.

Since it develops a broad crown shape the older it gets, this selection is especially suited for parks or landscape plantings. The tree tolerates wind, air pollution, paving and brief flooding and last but not least has good resistance to Dutch elm disease. For best results, give *Ulmus* 'Homestead' a sunny spot on fertile soil.

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, shade trees

USE

Location: avenue, park, central reservation, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, countryside, windbreak | **Pavement:** none, open, sealed | **Planting concepts:** Landscape planting, Solid planting

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: ovoid, pyramidal | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 15 - 20 m | **Width:** 8 - 12 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 6A - 9B

ASPECTS

Wind: tolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** dry, moist, wet | **Light requirements:** sun | **pH range:** neutral, alkaline | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to dryness, tolerates air pollution, tolerant to short-term flooding, resistant to Dutch elm disease 4

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: raceme, discrete | **Flower colour:** red-violet | **Flowering period:** March - March | **Leaf colour:** dark green, buds bright green | **Leaves:** deciduous, ovate, underside hairy, doubly serrate | **Autumn colour:** yellow | **Fruits:** striking, winged, nut | **Fruit colour:** brown, green | **Bark colour:** grey | **Bark:** furrowed, smooth | **Twig colour:** brown | **Twigs:** bare, pendulous, long shoots | **Root system:** deep, shallow, on own root

