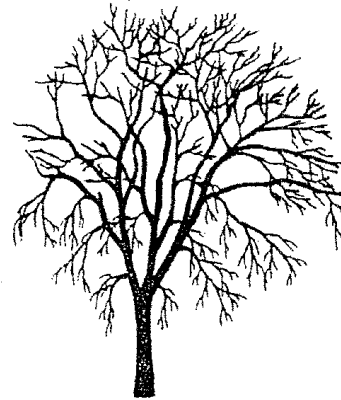
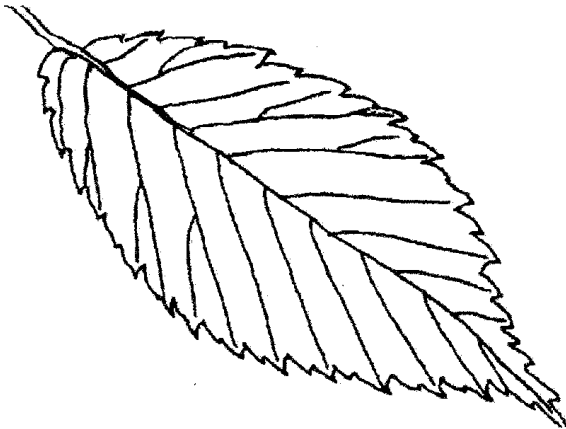


Siberian elm

Ulmus pumila



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: A smaller tree than the American elm with the generally same growth habit but with a serious weakness of the branches so that they are very prone to breakage in high winds. The leaves are the same shape as American elm but much smaller and very susceptible to elm leaf beetle. It can tolerate a variety of climatic and soil conditions as well as pollution. Once thought to be a replacement for the American elm the Siberian elm is a poor and short lived substitute, described by one eminent horticulturist as a "disastrous tree".

HABIT AND SIZE: 50-70' high and width 0.75 the height. An open habit with several dominant ascending branches and many smaller pendulous branches. The bark is grey to brown similar in texture to the American elm but much thinner in the depth and width of the ridges.

LANDSCAPE VALUE: Widely planted but considered a very bad choice for landscaping.

LEAVES: Elliptic to lanceolate, smooth and primarily simply serrate, 0.75-3" long, 0.33-1" wide, taper pointed and unequal at the base. Texture smooth above and glabrous below. Slightly pubescent when immature. Color a deep green.

FLOWERS: Similar to *U. americana* with 4-5 red stamens.

FRUIT: A samara that is round-obovate, usually broader than long, green glabrous wings.

BUD: 0.25' rounded flower buds that are blackish-brown with hairs along the edges of the bud scales.

DISEASES AND INSECTS: Very susceptible to the elm leaf beetle and the 'wetwood' bacterium.

HARDINESS AND RANGE: Zones 4-9. Eastern Siberia, northern China, Manchuria, and Korea

CULTIVARS: 'Chinkota'-cold hardy, 'Coolshade'-breakage resistant, 'Dropmore'-small foliage, 'Hamburg Hybrid' -strong wood and fast growing, 'Mr Buzz' -dense crown. More recent are 'Urban', 'Homestead' and 'Pioneer' which are less than satisfactory.