

F2176 (July 2024)

Joseph Zeleznik, Ph.D., Extension Forester

North Dakota Tree Selector

General

Scientific Name: *Tilia cordata*

Family: Malvaceae (Mallow)

Hardiness: Zone 3

Leaves: Deciduous

Plant Type: Tree

Growth

Rate: Medium

Mature Height: 25' to 45'

Longevity: Long

Power Line: No

Ornamental

Flowers: Yellow to cream to white

Fruit: Tan nutlet

Fall Color: Yellow

Littleleaf Linden

Description

Medium-sized tree native to Europe, with a strikingly dense pyramidal to rounded crown. Desirable specimen tree in the landscape. The flowers are highly fragrant and attractive to bees. The largest tree in North Dakota is 35 feet tall with a canopy spread of 32 feet.

Preferences

Light: Full sun but will tolerate shade.

Water: Intermediate tolerance to flooding, not drought resistant.

Soil: Adaptable to well drained, moist soils but is pH adaptable.

Comments

May develop leaf scorch under drought conditions.

Littleleaf linden is an excellent shade tree for lawns, large areas, streets and about any location a tree is desired. Littleleaf lindens can also be pruned into a hedge. Cultivars include:

Greenspire™ – Pyramidal, with a dense crown and ascending branches.

Corinthian® – Upright, with a narrow crown.

Norlin® – Extremely cold hardy with a pyramidal crown.

Shamrock® – Pyramidal, slightly faster growth than Greenspire™.



Credits: North Dakota Tree Handbook, North Dakota Extension Service, 1996.