

Ulmus 'Patriot'

'Patriot' elm



Ulmus 'Patriot' ('Patriot' elm) is a cross between *Ulmus* 'Urban' and *Ulmus* 'Prospector' from 1980 that was released in 1993 by Denny Townsend from the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, USA. This elm forms a vigorous upright main trunk and puts on strong growth as a juvenile tree, forming a very open oval crown. The branches curve upwards, forming an ornamental, narrow vase shape that becomes denser with maturity and ultimately attains a height of eighteen metres and ten metres wide.

It has dark green, glossy, attractively egg-shaped foliage with serrated margins in a semi-open crown with a fine texture that filters light beautifully, and makes a fine shade tree. One of the better elms in terms of autumn colour. The grey bark is rough and peels off. The nuts are surrounded by oval samaras and arranged in clusters. The flowers of this elm are arranged in clusters of inconspicuous red-violet blooms.

'Patriot' elm has very good resistance to Dutch elm disease. Very hardy and grows best in moist but well-drained soils. Road salt, air pollution, poor and chalky soils or temporary flooding pose no problem either. This elm is easy to produce from cuttings and, therefore, best on its own roots. *Ulmus* 'Patriot' has been tested in the dry climates of Arizona and cold climates of Minnesota. In warm climates, only *Ulmus* 'Frontier' and *Ulmus* 'Regal' are superior selections. Whilst in cool climates the tree ended up on every top ten list of city trees. In short, a strong, large tree for parks and along roadsides.

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