

United States Department of Agriculture  
Soil Conservation Service  
Ecological Sciences and Technology Division  
Washington, D. C.

Notice of Release of 'ELSMO' Lace-Bark Elm

The United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service and the Plant Materials Center, Elsberry, Missouri, announce the release of 'Elsmo' lace-bark elm, Ulmus parvifolia Jacq.

'Elsmo' lace-bark elm was received in 1934 from the Bureau of Parks in Rochester, New York. It was evaluated, selected, and increased at the Elsberry Plant Materials Center.

The USDA, Soil Conservation Service has evaluated the adaptation and performance of Elsmo as M1-204 (900438) for winter hardiness, insect and disease damage, form, and foliage density in plantings on the center and in field plantings. Advantages over other species of elm are (1) insect and disease resistance-Dutch elm disease (Ceratocystis ulmi [Buism.] and Phloem necrosis (Botryodiplodia hypodermia [Sacc.] Petr. and Syd.), (2) winter hardiness, (3) excellent form, and (4) increased foliage density.

Elsmo is a medium sized tree reaching a height of 50 feet (15 meters). Bark mottled and often exfoliating in irregular spots, exposing much lighter colored areas beneath, very colorful; bracts pubescent; stipules linear-lanceolate, narrow at the base. Leaves are elliptic to ovate or obovate, two to five centimeters long. Flowers in August or September in axillary clusters: fruits are elliptic-ovate about one centimeter long, notched at the apex. The fruits ripen in September to December. Seed (clean) per pound range from 114,000 to 169,000.

'Elsmo' lace-bark elm is adapted to a wide range of soil types but prefer medium to well-drained soils. Elsmo has been successfully planted in Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Oklahoma, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, New Jersey, Oregon, South Carolina in plant hardiness zones 4b-7a.

Elsmo is recommended for use in farmstead and field windbreaks, urban forestry and recreation area development.

'Elsmo' lace-bark elm is a prolific seed producer. It is released as an open-pollinated seed propagated cultivar.

Propagation by commercial nurseries will be from open-pollinated seed. Breeder seed is maintained by the Plant Materials Center, Elsberry, Missouri. Seed and plants to establish seed orchards of 'Elsmo' lace-bark elm is available from the Elsberry Plant Materials Center in limited supply.

Approved By: James B. Newman  
Director, Ecological Science and Technology Division  
Soil Conservation Service - Washington, D. C.  
Date: October 24, 1990

Patrick K. Wolf  
State Conservationist  
Soil Conservation Service - Columbia, Missouri  
Date: SEP 19 1990

ACTING

John J. Elmer  
State Conservationist  
Soil Conservation Service - Champaign, Illinois  
Date: September 26, 1990

Dennis J. Pate, Acting  
State Conservationist  
Soil Conservation Service - Des Moines, Iowa  
Date: October 2, 1990