

Emerald Flare® Tianshan Birch

Betula tianschanica 'EmerDak' (Family: *Betulaceae*)

Description: A distinctive birch selection, which grows in a narrowly pyramidal form. Attractive white exfoliating bark with gray and slight orange undertones. Branches stay a darker brown giving an attractive two-tone color in winter. Cold hardy and tolerant of higher pH soils and drought. Bronze Birch Borer and Japanese beetle resistant.

Hardiness: USDA hardiness zones 3 to 7

Mature Size: Height: 35', Spread: 12'

Form (Shape): Upright, broad pyramidal habit.

Growth Rate: Medium to Fast

Foliage: Summer: Medium emerald-green color
Autumn: Bright golden-yellow

Texture: Medium

Flower: Monoecious, male and female flowers are catkins. Not ornamental.

Fruit: Strobiles which release small winged nutlets at maturity. Not ornamental.

Light Preferences: Full sun to very light shade

Soil Preferences: Performs best in well-drained soil and is tolerant of higher pH soils without chlorosis.

Propagation: Stem cuttings or tissue culture.

Ornamental Attributes: Emerald Flare® has dark green foliage throughout the season. The slight exfoliating white bark is extremely showy and adds significant seasonal interest.

Landscape Attributes: Recommended use in limited space landscapes for vertical accent elements or specimen tree. It is recommended that trees be mulched and supplementary water supplied in stressful sites. Mulch will assist with winter protection in exposed locations or colder zones.

Comments: Summer foliage is of high quality without blemishes resulting from birch leafminer or leaf spot. During summer drought conditions, Emerald Flare® exhibits no foliar stress symptoms such as leaf scorch or early leaf drop which is seen on many other birch species. Resistant to Bronze Birch Borer and Japanese beetle.

Availability: Baker's Nursery (Ontario, Canada), Evergreen Nursery (WI), Heritage Seedlings and Liners (OR), Knight Hollow Nursery (WI, as TC liner)

