Species: *Betula nigra*

(bet'you-lah nye'grah)

River Birch; Red Birch

### Cultivar Information

Most *Betula nigra* cultivars are medium to large trees **except for 'Fox Valley'** which is a dwarf tree approximately 15’ tall.

* See specific cultivar notes on next page.

### Ornamental Characteristics

- **Size:** Tree > 30 feet, Tree < 30 feet
- **Height:** 40' - 70' (spread 40' - 60')
- **Leaves:** Deciduous
- **Shape:** pyramidal-oval to rounded
- **Ornamental Other:**

### Environmental Characteristics

- **Light:** Full sun
- **Hardy To Zone:** 3b
- **Soil Ph:** Can tolerate acid to neutral soil (pH 5.0 to 7.4)
- **Salt Tolerance:** Tolerates salty soil
- **Environmental Other:** Medium to fast growth. best in consistently moist acid soil

### Insect Disease

- Resistant to bronze birch borer; leaf spot can cause defoliation; susceptible to leaf miner

### Bare Root Transplanting

- Moderately difficult
Other

native to US, from Massachusetts south to Florida, west to Kansas and Minnesota

Cultivars for *Betula nigra*

Showing 1-9 of 9 items.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultivar Name</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Slicker</td>
<td>'City Slicker' - vigorous; drought tolerant; white bark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dura-Heat</td>
<td>'Dura-Heat' - closely spaced leaves; cold hardy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graceful Arms</td>
<td>'Graceful Arms' - semi-weeping form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage</td>
<td>'Heritage' (a.k.a. Cully) - superior; vigorous; salmon bark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shiloh Splash</td>
<td>'Shiloh Splash' - white variegated foliage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Cascade</td>
<td>'Summer Cascade' - Weeping; semi-dwarf, 6-8' tall and wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suwanee</td>
<td>'Suwanee' - more lustrous leaves; salmon white bark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tecumseh Compact</td>
<td>'Tecumseh Compact' - shrubby form with graceful semi-arching branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fox Valley</td>
<td>'Fox Valley' (a.k.a 'Little King) - dwarf,dense &amp; compact with branches to the ground</td>
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</tbody>
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Photos

Betula nigra - Bark

Betula nigra - Bark
Betula nigra - Habit

Betula nigra Fruit ED
Betula nigra - Habit

Betula nigra - Leaf
Betula nigra - Leaves

Betula nigra - Habit
Betula nigra - Bud