Species: *Betula lenta*

(bet‘you-lah len’tah)

Sweet Birch; Black Birch; Cherry Birch

**Ornamental Characteristics**

- **Size:** Tree > 30 feet
- **Height:** 40’ - 70’ (spread 35’ - 40’)
- **Leaves:** Deciduous
- **Shape:** pyramidal to irregular and spreading
- **Ornamental Other:** Shiny cherry-like bark when young

**Environmental Characteristics**

- **Light:** Full sun
- **Hardy To Zone:** 4a
- **Soil Ph:** Can tolerate acid to neutral soil (pH 5.0 to 7.4)

**Insect Disease**

Potential problems are bronze birch borer and leaf miner; also may be susceptible to stem canker disease

**Bare Root Transplanting**

Moderately difficult

**Other**

Native from northeastern U.S., south to Alabama; inner bark is used for commercial wintergreen flavoring

**Moisture Tolerance**

![Moisture Tolerance Chart](chart.png)
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Photos

Betula lenta - Bark

Betula lenta - Habit, Fall Interest
Betula lenta cones

Betula lenta - Habit
Betula lenta - Habit

Betula lenta - Bark
Betula lenta - Buds

betula lenta3
Betula lenta - Bark