

CHICAGOLAND GROWS®, INC.

Plant Introduction Program - Plant Release Bulletin #11



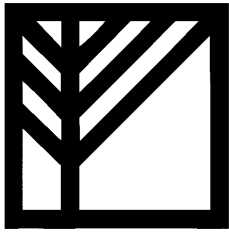
Accolade™ Elm

Ulmus 'Morton'

A Dutch elm disease-resistant hybrid with a graceful, vase-shaped habit and vigorous growth. An excellent American elm replacement.



Chicagoland Grows® is a nonprofit corporation of the Chicago Botanic Garden, The Morton Arboretum and the Ornamental Growers Association of Northern Illinois (OGA).



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Botanical Name

Ulmus 'Morton'

Trade Name

Accolade™ Elm

Family

Ulmaceae

Origin

A selected clone from the collections of The Morton Arboretum. Considered a hybrid of *Ulmus japonica* and *U. wilsoniana*. The plant originated from seed collected at the Arnold Arboretum near Boston in 1924.

Hardiness

U.S.D.A. Zones 5-8

General Description and Habit

Once thought of as the ideal large tree for cities, the American elm had long arching branches that formed allées offering shade for hot city streets. When Dutch elm disease destroyed most of the elms lining American streets, it was feared that the American elm would never be replaced. With its graceful vase-shaped habit, vigorous growth rate and dark green glossy foliage, Accolade™ may just be the answer. It has excellent disease and pest resistance, as well as excellent drought tolerance.

Size

20-year size: 30' tall by 15' wide

Mature size: 50' to 60' tall by 30' to 40' wide (at maturity it is slightly smaller than the American elm)

Growth Rate

Fast for the young specimen, up to 3 feet per year, then 1 to 1.5 feet per year until maturity.

Ornamental Characteristics

FOLIAGE

Lustrous, dark green in summer.

HABIT

Attractive vase-shaped habit with graceful, upright-arching branches, reminiscent of the American elm.

Culture

Easily transplanted, balled and burlapped. Quick to establish and regain rapid growth. Adaptable to most soil types unless excessively wet.

Pest and Disease Problems

Excellent disease and insect resistance. Resistant to Dutch elm disease and elm yellows, two catastrophic diseases of elms. Excellent resistance to elm leaf beetle.

Landscape Value

Excellent shade tree for home and commercial landscapes. Wonderful park or street tree.

Propagation

Grafted onto *Ulmus pumila* or own root from tissue culture.

Special Note

The elm improvement program at The Morton Arboretum began when the significance of the large, glossy-leaved elm near the Thornhill Education Center was recognized. Its close resemblance to the American elm inspired further study, proving this elm worthy of introduction.

Accolade™ is the first of many elms to be commercially introduced from The Morton Arboretum's tree breeding and selection program, established by Dr. George Ware to test and examine as many species of Asian elms as possible in an effort to find suitable replacements for the beloved but disease-prone American elm.

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The Chicagoland Grows® Plant Introduction Program is dedicated to the evaluation, selection, production and marketing of recommended and new plant cultivars. Plants selected for the program have proven to be adaptable to the Midwest and are made available to the commercial and retail landscape industry through an international network of growers and propagators.

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The
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Arboretum

OGA

For more information about Chicagoland Grows®, contact:
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