



# Dura Heat River Birch

## The Facts

Height: 30 - 40'

Spread: 25 - 35'

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium to wet

Soil: Well-drained

Growth Rate: Fast

*Betula nigra*, commonly called river birch, is a vigorous, fast-growing, medium-sized, Missouri native deciduous tree which occurs on floodplains, swampy bottomlands and along streams throughout the state. In cultivation, it can be trained as either a single trunk or multi-trunked tree. As a single trunk tree, it develops a pyramidal habit when young, but matures to a more rounded shape.

Multi-trunked trees form a more irregular crown and are generally considered to be the superior growth habit for this species. Salmon-pink to reddish brown bark exfoliates to reveal lighter inner bark. Leathery, diamond-shaped, medium to dark green leaves (1.5-3.5" long) with doubly toothed margins that turn a butter yellow in fall. Flowers appear in drooping, brownish male catkins and smaller, upright, greenish female catkins.

