



## *Koelreuteria paniculata* 'Fastigiata' 'Fastigiata' Goldenraintree<sup>1</sup>

Edward F. Gilman and Dennis G. Watson<sup>2</sup>

### INTRODUCTION

This cultivar of Goldenraintree probably grows 30 feet tall with a four to six-foot spread (Fig. 1). Although the species has a reputation for being weak wooded, this selection may stay together due to the tight, compact growth habit. It is rarely attacked by pests and grows in a wide range of soils, including high pH soils. Goldenraintree tolerates dryness and casts little shade because of the narrow growth habit. It would make a good tree particularly where overhead or soil space is limited, due to its narrow crown and adaptive abilities. The tree grows moderately and bears few flowers. It is not as showy as *Koelreuteria bipinnata* but is much more cold-tolerant. However, it is less cold tolerant than the species.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Scientific name:** *Koelreuteria paniculata* 'Fastigiata'

**Pronunciation:** kole-roo-TEER-ee-uh  
pan-ick-yoo-LAY-tuh

**Common name(s):** 'Fastigiata' Goldenraintree

**Family:** *Sapindaceae*

**USDA hardiness zones:** 5B through 9 (Fig. 2)

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Uses:** wide tree lawns (>6 feet wide); medium-sized tree lawns (4-6 feet wide); recommended for buffer strips around parking lots or for median strip plantings in the highway; specimen; sidewalk cutout (tree pit); residential street tree; tree has been successfully grown in urban areas where air pollution, poor drainage, compacted soil, and/or drought are common

**Availability:** grown in small quantities by a small number of nurseries

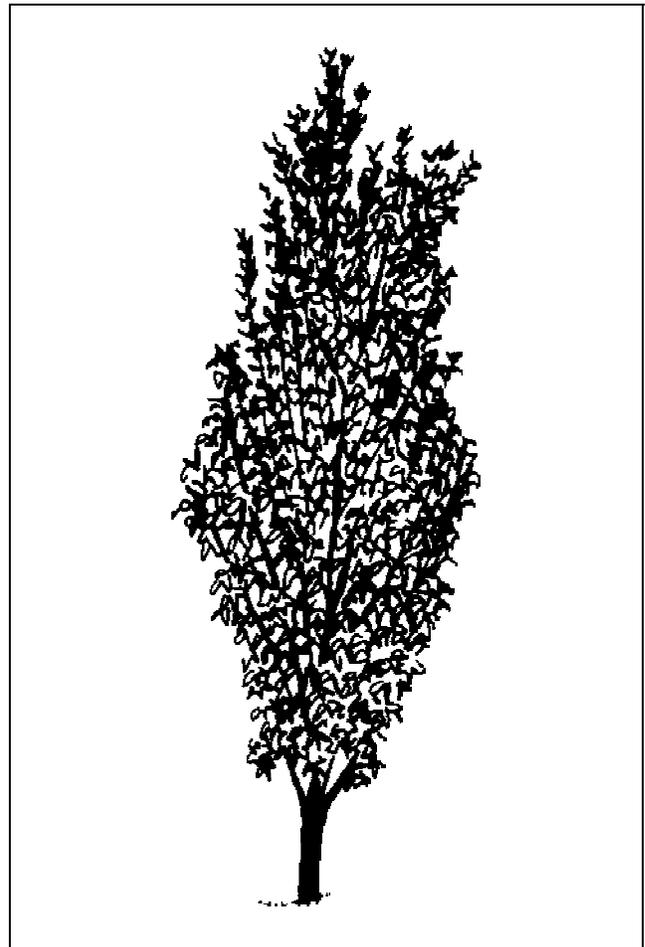


Figure 1. Middle-aged 'Fastigiata' Goldenraintree.

1. This document is adapted from Fact Sheet ST-339, a series of the Environmental Horticulture Department, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Publication date: November 1993.
2. Edward F. Gilman, associate professor, Environmental Horticulture Department; Dennis G. Watson, associate professor, Agricultural Engineering Department, Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville FL 32611.



Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

## DESCRIPTION

**Height:** 20 to 30 feet

**Spread:** 4 to 7 feet

**Crown uniformity:** symmetrical canopy with a regular (or smooth) outline, and individuals have more or less identical crown forms

**Crown shape:** columnar; upright

**Crown density:** moderate

**Growth rate:** medium

**Texture:** coarse

## Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** alternate (Fig. 3)

**Leaf type:** even pinnately compound; odd pinnately compound

**Leaflet margin:** lobed; incised; serrate

**Leaflet shape:** oblong; ovate

**Leaflet venation:** pinnate

**Leaf type and persistence:** deciduous

**Leaflet blade length:** 2 to 4 inches; less than 2 inches

**Leaf color:** green

**Fall color:** yellow

**Fall characteristic:** showy

## Flower

**Flower color:** yellow

**Flower characteristics:** summer flowering; very showy

## Fruit

**Fruit shape:** elongated; oval

**Fruit length:** 1 to 3 inches

**Fruit covering:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** brown; green

**Fruit characteristics:** does not attract wildlife; no significant litter problem; persistent on the tree; showy

## Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** bark is thin and easily damaged from mechanical impact; grow mostly upright and will not droop; not particularly showy; should be grown with a single leader; no thorns

**Pruning requirement:** requires pruning to develop strong structure

**Breakage:** resistant

**Current year twig color:** brown

**Current year twig thickness:** thick

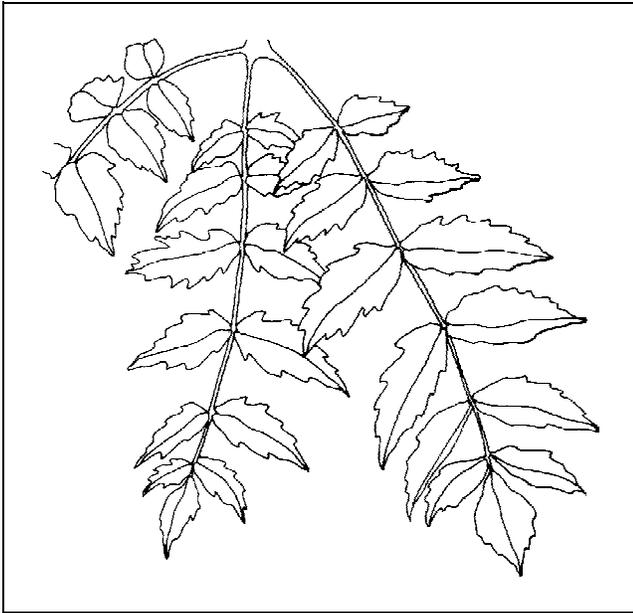


Figure 3. Foliage of 'Fastigiata' Goldenraintree.

## Culture

**Light requirement:** tree grows in full sun

**Soil tolerances:** clay; loam; sand; acidic; alkaline; extended flooding; well-drained

**Drought tolerance:** high

**Aerosol salt tolerance:** moderate

**Soil salt tolerance:** moderate

## Other

**Roots:** surface roots are usually not a problem

**Winter interest:** no special winter interest

**Outstanding tree:** tree has outstanding ornamental features and could be planted more

**Invasive potential:** No entries found.

**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** susceptible

**Pest resistance:** long-term health usually not affected by pests

## USE AND MANAGEMENT

The root system is coarse with only a few but large roots, so transplant when young or from containers. Do not transplant in the fall as success rate is reportedly limited. Considered a city tolerant tree due to tolerance to air pollution and ability to withstand drought, heat and alkaline soils. It also tolerates some salt spray but requires well-drained soil.

## Pests

Occasional attacks by scale may be seen. Sprays of horticultural oil help control overwinter stages. Boxelder bug can be a menace.

## Diseases

*Koelreuteria* is subject to few diseases. A canker causes dead and sunken areas on the bark. Coral pink fruiting bodies develop on the diseased bark. Prune out infected branches and fertilize to maintain tree health.

Verticillium wilt attacks *Koelreuteria*. The disease causes wilting and death of leaves on infected branches. Eventually the entire tree may be killed. Fertilize to stimulate growth. There are no chemical controls.