



Koelreuteria paniculata 'Fastigiata' 'Fastigiata' Goldenraintree¹

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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

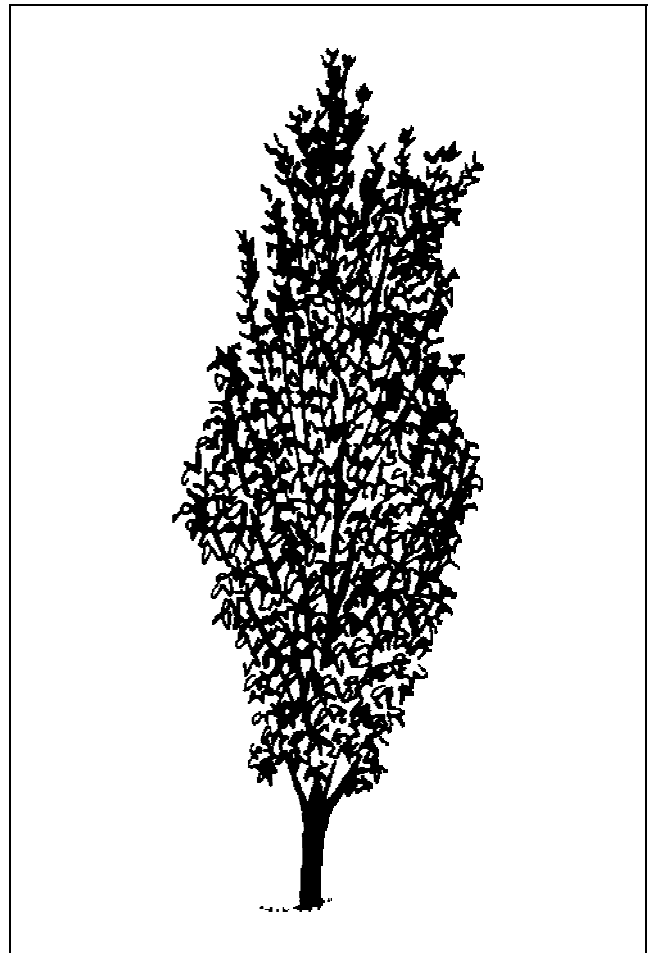


Figure 1. Middle-aged 'Fastigiata' Goldenraintree.

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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

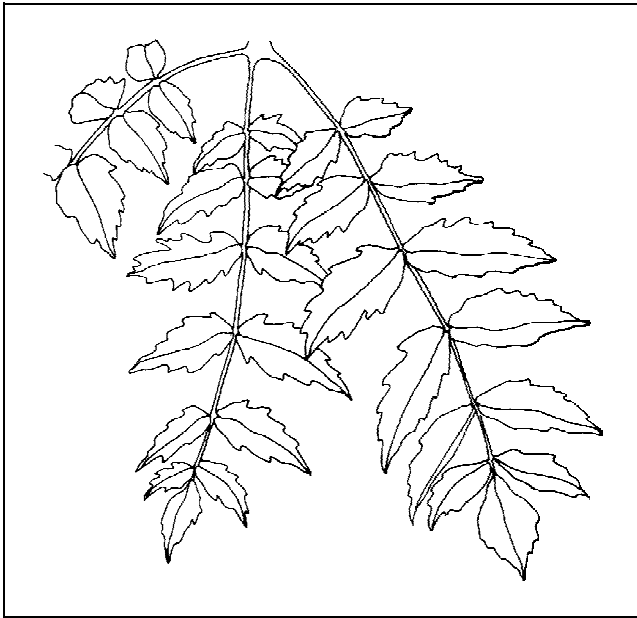


Figure 3. Foliage of 'Fastigiata' Goldenraintree.

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.