



Ulmus laevis 'Helena'



Height	15-25 m, fast growing
Crown	columnar, half-open crown
Bark and branches	grey
Leaf	shiny dark green
Autumn colour	yellow
Flowers	red, flowers in March-April
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	loamy soil, sandy soil, peaty soil, calcareous soil
Soil moisture	withstand short flood
Paving	tolerates paving
Winter hardiness zone	5 (-28,8 to -23,4 °C)
Wind resistance	good
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind, valuable for butterflies
Application	avenues and broad streets
Shape	clearstem tree

'Helena' is a medium to large tree with a broad columnar to later oval crown that grows 15-25 tall. The young, brown-green, twigs are hairy and the old bark is dark grey and slightly grooved. The leaves are like those of the species *U. laevis*; inversely ovate and slightly glossy dark green. In autumn, it turns a beautiful yellow. The red blooms occur before the leaves sprout, so the small flowers are still somewhat conspicuous. 'Helena' grew from seed harvested from trees of *U. laevis* in an avenue in Eibergen. One of the seedlings stood out in 2007 for its uniform growth, was selected and introduced seven years later as 'Helena'. Although *U. laevis* is not completely resistant to Dutch elm disease, infections are rare in nature. In addition, 'Helena' is less susceptible to aphid infestations than other elms. The tree tolerates (sea) wind, temporarily very wet soil but also temporary drought.