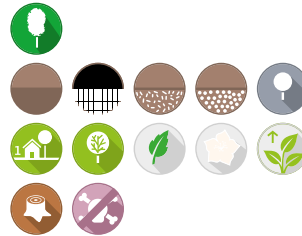




Toona ciliata



Height	25 m
Width	15-20m
Crown	round, half-open crown
Bark and branches	reddish brown, later flaking in long plates
Leaf	glossy dark green
Flowers	pale yellow, flowers in Junewhite, flowers in August-October
Fruits	light brown, dry capsule
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	any, if well-drained
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	9 (-6,6 to -1,2 °C)
Wind resistance	moderate
Application	tree containers, patio gardens
Shape	clearstem tree
Origin	Southeast Asia, Australia

Toona ciliata is a fast-growing, large tree with a round crown up to about 25 m high. The red-brown bark is rough and later flakes off in large elongated sheets. The evenly pinnate leaves can grow almost a metre long and consist of up to 30 leaflets. These are glossy dark green on top and dull lighter green underneath. When bruised, they emit a strong odour. In its natural range, the tree is evergreen, but planted in cooler climates, it is semi-evergreen. In late summer to autumn, the white flowers open in pendulous panicles. The flowers smell sweet and pleasant. They are followed by small oval box fruits.

Toona ciliata is an important tree for timber production. The wood is used in building houses and ships, but it is also sought after for making furniture and musical instruments. The bark contains a dye used in colouring leather. Because of the versatility of T. ciliata and the fact that the tree grows rapidly, it has spread to many subtropical regions of the world, where T. ciliata is now considered an invasive exotic. The tree is not sufficiently hardy to be planted outdoors in western Europe and can only be used in atria.