**Betulaceae** Betula

**Betula alleghaniensis**

Yellow birch

Betula lutea

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**Height**
circa 20 m

**Crown**
narrow pyramidal, half-open crown, capricious growing

**Bark and branches**
yellow brown, small curved plates, lenticels horizontal

**Leaf**
ovooid to oval, green, 6 - 11 cm

**Attractive autumn colour**
yellow

**Flowers**
catkins, yellow green, ♀ mid-April, ♂ May, 5 - 9 cm

**Fruits**
fruit catkins, 1.5 - 2.5 cm

**Spines/thorns**
none

**Toxicity**
non-toxic (usually)

**Soil type**
tolerates fairly moist soils

**Soil moisture**
suitable for wet soil

**Paving**
tolerates no paving

**Winter hardiness**
3 (-40.0 to -34.5 °C)

**Wind resistance**
moderate to good

**Wind / frost / salt**
resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)

**Light requirement**
light-loving

**Playground tree**
yes

**Application**
parks, theme parks, cemeteries, large gardens

**Type/shape**
clearstem tree, feathered tree

**Origin**
eastern North America

**Synonyms**
Betula lutea

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Average-sized, fast-growing tree with a narrow, pointed crown. As the tree matures it gets wider and may even get a round shape. In the wild there are sometimes specimen of 30 m. The bark is yellowish to silver grey and flaking. The older bark turns to red brown. The twigs are strong and green brown. The dark-green leaf is ovoid to oval and acuminate. The underside of the leaf is yellow green and haired along the veins. The leaf margin is double-toothed. The leaf unfolds late in spring and falls early. The autumn colour is yellow. Female upright catkins mid-April, before the leaf appears. Male catkins are 5 - 9 cm big and appear in May. A graceful park tree that is little cultivated. Prefers moist soil, but also thrives in drier locations.