Betulaceae  Betula

Betula pendula 'Youngii'
Young’s weeping birch

Height  4 - 6 m, dependent on the position of the graft union
Crown  wide weeping, half-open crown, capricious growing
Bark and branches  white, slightly peeling, later deeply furrowed at the base
Leaf  triangular to diamond-shaped, fresh green, 3 - 7 cm
Sprout  early sprout
Attractive autumn colour  yellow
Flowers  catkins yellow green, 1 erect and + 1 cm, 3 - 8 cm, April
Fruits  pendulous fruiting catkins, circa 2 - 4 cm
Spines/thorns  none
Toxicity  non-toxic (usually)
Soil type  loose soil, requires little moist
Soil moisture  suitable for dry soil
Paving  tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness  2 (-45.5 to -40.1 °C)
Wind resistance  very good, no sea wind
Wind / frost / salt  resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Light requirement  light-loving
Fauna tree  valuable for butterflies
Playground tree  yes
Application  parks, tree containers, theme parks, cemeteries, roof gardens, large gardens, small gardens, patio gardens
Type/shape  clearstem tree, specimen tree
Origin  England, + 1870

A weeping form with a top that does not grow upright. Usually grafted at a height of circa 2.5 m. The crown, which is strongly branching and horizontal, starts at the graft union. The branches are gracefully pendent, creating an umbrella-shaped tree. The eventual height depends strongly of the height of the graft union. Width of the crown can be circa 6 - 8 m. As rootstock the Betula pendula is used. The twigs are red brown and have warty lenticels. the leaf is triangular and linear pointed and has a double-toothed margin. The autumn colour is strikingly yellow. ‘Youngii’ rarely flowers. Hillocks, soil compaction and variable water levels have a negative influence on the health of this birch. The tree is shallow-rooting. Sea wind is not tolerated well.