

Scientific Name: *Betula populifolia* ‘Whitespire Sr.’ (cultivar formerly listed as *Betula platyphylla* var. *japonica*, Asian White Birch)

Common Name: Whitespire Sr. Gray Birch

Environmental Conditions:

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Soil Moisture:

VERY WET			VERY DRY								
occasionally saturated or very wet soil			consistently moist, well drained soil			occasional periods of dry soil			prolonged periods of dry soil		
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Sun/Shade: full sun

Salt: unknown

pH: ≤ 7.5

Other: reportedly better heat tolerance than most Birch but not as good as previously listed River Birch cultivars Heritage® and Dura-Heat™

Insect/Disease Factors: shows some resistance to bronze birch borer, reportedly leafhopper resistant

Growth Characteristics:

Height: 40’

Width: 25’

Form/Habit: pyramidal to oval, available in multi-stem or single-stem forms, specify desirable form

Rate: medium (possibly fast)

Ornamental Characteristics:

Flower: catkins

Fruit: not ornamentally important, inconspicuous, small nutlets inside catkins

Seasonal Foliage Color: glossy, dark green in summer, yellow in fall

Bark: attractive, grayish-white, with black markings, doesn’t exfoliate

Transplant Issues: moderately difficult to transplant bare root, better success in transplanting bare root in fall, do not attempt to transplant > 2” caliper trees bare root, best planted B&B

Management Issues: none of significance

Suggested Uses: narrow or wide street tree lawns/pits(preferably wide lawns/pits for multi-stem form), parks

Cultivars: above information is cultivar specific, ‘Whitespire Jr.’ not recommended because of genetic variability due to seed propagation