

Betula nigra 'BNMTF' Dura-Heat® River Birch

Tree Introductions, Inc. has introduced another great shade and landscape tree. *Betula nigra* 'BNMTF' Dura-Heat[®] River Birch, a new selection of the ubiquitously adaptable River Birch found by Moon's Tree Farm, Loganville, GA, should supersede other River Birch varieties as the most universally embraced and planted North American Birch.

Dura-Heat® offers superlative lustrous dark green leaves that turn soft butter yellow in the autumn. The leaves are more leathery and smaller than other varieties and the species. Leaves are closely spaced along the length of the shoots resulting in a dense canopy of foliage, even on young trees. Leaf spot resistance is significantly greater than that of other varieties and the species. Side-by-side comparisons of Dura-Heat® foliage against other varieties or the species leave no room for doubt about the superior foliage characteristics.

The creamy white bark exfoliates on 1" to 2" diameter branches and is more creamy-white than that of the species. Dura-Heat® produces superior bark at an early age. Four-year old, 12-foot-high specimens were transplanted in June, 1996, in Athens, Georgia, with no appreciable leaf drop or shock. The root system is densely branched with numerous fibrous roots that facilitate successful transplanting.

For contemporary residential landscapes, corporate sites, campuses, golf courses, and tree lawns, Dura-Heat® will prove the birch of choice. More resistant to borer and leaf miner that are so trouble-some to the white-bark species, Dura-Heat® is the superior selection for the 21st century.

~ Dr. Michael Dirr

