

PRAIRIE DREAM® PAPER BIRCH**(RFM-32)**

Betula papyrifera 'Varen' (PP 15,768) (Family: Betulaceae)

Description: Prairie Dream® is a paper birch with exceptional snowwhite exfoliating bark, quality dark green foliage and excellent golden-yellow autumn foliage coloration. Superior adaptation and stress tolerance are valuable attributes of this cultivar. Resistant to bronze birch borer attack since 1975 in evaluations. Prairie Dream® is excellent grown single or multi-trunked.

Hardiness: USDA hardiness zone 2b – 6(7)

Mature Size: Height: 50', Spread: 40'

Form: Semi-pyramidal to upright-oval, becoming broadly-oval with age.

Growth Rate: Moderate to fast

Foliage: Deciduous, Summer: Lustrous medium to dark green with doubly serrated margin. Autumn: Yellow with high quality foliage.

Texture: Medium

Flowers: Slender catkins, no ornamental value

Fruit: Small nutlet, no ornamental value.

Light Preference: Full sun to part shade

Soil Preference: Prefers moist well-drained soils and is pH adaptable

Propagation: Tissue culture and/or softwood cuttings

Ornamental Attributes: Prairie Dream® Paper Birch has dark green foliage throughout the season and turn an outstanding gold in the fall. The peeling white bark is extremely showy and adds significant winter interest especially when framed against evergreens.

Landscape Attributes: Recommended as a landscape specimen tree. Prairie Dream® is more adaptable and stress tolerant than the species. Very low maintenance and is highly resistant to bronze birch borer. Performs better than *Betula pendula*.

Comments: Seedling selection from western North Dakota from the Kildeer Mountains. Deer resistant. Apply mulch around root zone to prevent from drying out.

Availability: Available in trade.

**NDSU Research Foundation**

1735 NDSU Research Park Drive Dept. 4400 PO Box 6080 Fargo, ND 58108-6050
701.231.8173 or 701.231.6659 Fax 701.231.6661 www.ndsuresearchfoundation.org