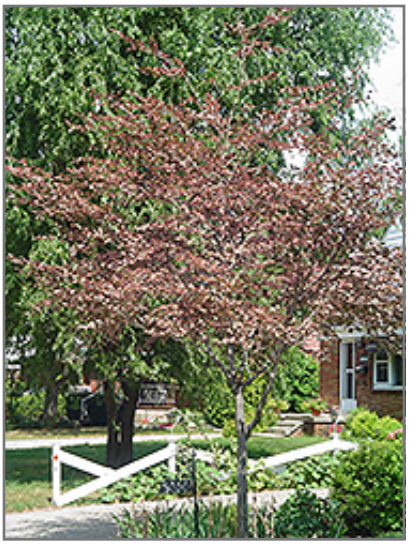
222 W. Lake St.
Bloomingdale, Il 60108
Phone (630) 529-9394
Fax: (630) 529-3795

PLATT HILL NURSERY

2400 Randall Rd.
Carpentersville, Il 60108
Phone: (847) 428-6767
Fax: (847) 428-3812

Tricolor Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Tricolor'



Tricolor Beech
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 40 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Roseomarginata Beech, Common Beech, European Beech

Description:

A lovely accent tree with beautiful green leaves that are flecked with white with pink edges, turning copper in fall; distinctive, smooth, silver bark; leaves may burn in prolonged direct sun or drying winds; give it lots of room to grow and look its best

Ornamental Features

Tricolor Beech is primarily valued in the landscape for its decidedly oval form. It has attractive green foliage edged in pink with hints of white. The serrated pointy leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding coppery-bronze in the fall. The smooth silver bark is extremely showy and adds significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

Tricolor Beech is a dense deciduous tree with a shapely oval form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Tricolor Beech is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Tricolor Beech foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Tricolor Beech will grow to be about 40 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 4 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live to a ripe old age of 120 years or more; think of this as a heritage tree for future generations!

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.