



Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape

Botanical Name: *Acer japonicum* 'Vitifolium' (ACjv)

New species

Common Name: Downy Japanese maple, Full moon maple

Species Description

- Deciduous
- Small tree, vase shaped and upright
- Bark becomes greyish-brown
- Young foliage is bronze in spring, turning to green in summer and brilliant scarlet in autumn
- Clusters of large purplish-red flowers come out in spring before the leaves
- The fruit are [samaras](#) and are borne in pairs

Height and width

5 metres tall by 5 metres wide

Species origin

Originating in Japan, it was introduced to Western gardens in 1864

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 15\text{m}^3$
- Suitable for use as a small street tree in areas such as cul-de-sacs, in parks, shopping centre precincts and home gardens
- Excellent small tree for use in established suburbs that have shelter provided by established trees
- Should not be planted near nature reserves, creeks or watercourses

Use considerations

- Has performed well in sheltered private gardens in Canberra for years
- High frost tolerance and moderate drought tolerance
- Suitable in almost any reasonable soil, although good drainage is important
- Prefers sheltered sites; dislikes hot summer westerly winds
- [Medium longevity](#)
- Moderate growth rate
- Low flammability

Examples in Canberra

Not known in Canberra in public plantings

Availability

Commercially available

