



Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Fraxinus velutina* (FRv)

Common Name: Arizona ash, Velvet ash, Modesto ash

Species Description

- Deciduous
- Ovate form with upright branching
- Rough grey-brown fissured bark
- Velvety buds and green pinnate leaves 10 to 25 centimetres long, turning clear yellow in autumn
- Insignificant flowers in spring
- Fruit are [samaras](#)

Height and width

10 to 12 metres tall by 10 metres wide

Species origin

South-western North America (California, Texas, Arizona and Mexico)

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 45\text{m}^3$
- Suitable for home gardens and for use as a street tree on narrow verges
- Can be used in mixed deciduous plantings in parks where a range of autumn colours are desired
- Should not be planted near nature reserves, creeks or watercourses

Use considerations

- Occurs naturally in drier areas than Canberra, so well suited to the local climate
- Moderate frost and drought tolerance
- Grows best on deeper, well drained soils but may grow on poorer soils if supplementary water is provided during establishment
- Requires full sun
- [Medium longevity](#), tending to decline quickly once in decline
- Moderate growth rate
- Very low flammability
- Formative pruning is recommended to encourage a strong structure and frequent pruning may be needed once decline begins
- Vigorous root system; wind-pollinated

Examples in Canberra

Newdegate Street, Deakin; northern end of Duffy St, Ainslie; Bates St, Dickson; Boronia Drive, O'Connor; Molesworth Street, Watson; Macgillivray Street, Yarralumla

Availability

Commercially available

