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ELMS FOR NEBRASKA

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THE NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM PRESENTS

ELMS FOR NEBRASKA

Justin Everton & Bob Henrickson, NSA 2011. For more plant information, visit arboretum.unl.edu or retreenbraska.unl.edu.

Elms are majestic trees with a tall, arching habit that makes them useful for providing shade along streets, parks, and backyards. Elms are also relatively tolerant of poor soils and extreme weather. While Dutch elm disease has eliminated much of the old elm population in Nebraska, many new hybrids and cultivars show promising resistance and are making the elm o.k. to plant again.

Elm Species

1. American Elm - *Ulmus americana*: disease resistant varieties include 'Princeton', 'Jefferson', 'Valley Forge' and 'New Harmony'; 50-70'x50-70'. Note that 'Valley Forge' has poor branch angles and shows a tendency to break apart in wind storms.
2. Japanese Elm - *Ulmus davidiana* var. *japonica* (very cold tolerant; rounded habit; glossy green; 45'x 45')
3. Lacebark Elm - *Ulmus parvifolia* (distinctive mottled bark; small glossy leaves; 35'x 25')
4. Rock Elm - *Ulmus thomasii* (distinctive corky stems; upright habit; DED resistance in west; 50-60'x 30-40')

Elm Hybrids and Cultivars

5. 'Accolade' - looks like American elm; Morton Arboretum hybrid of *U. japonica* and *U. wilsoniana*; 50'x 40'.
6. 'Cathedral' - tough and adaptable; developed in Wisconsin; *U. pumila* x *U. japonica*; 40-50'x 40-50'.
7. 'Discovery' is a promising *U. davidiana* cultivar selected from Manitoba Canada; 45-50'x40-45'.
8. 'Emerald Sunshine' is a cultivar of *Ulmus propinqua* known for clean habit and yellow fall color; 30-40'.
9. 'Frontier' - smaller, glossy leaves; lacy bark pattern; purple fall color; *U. parvifolia* x *U. carpinifolia*; 40' x 30'.
10. 'New Horizon' - *U. japonica* x *U. pumila*; upright habit; strong branch structure; 50'x30'
11. 'Pioneer' - cross between *U. glabra* and *U. carpinifolia*; fast growing; dense, rounded shade; 50'x 50'.
12. 'Triumph' - cross between 'Vanguard' and 'Accolade'; very adaptable; vigorous upright growth habit; 60'x 40'.
13. 'Vanguard' - an improved Siberian elm hybrid; VERY tough and adaptable; glossy leaves; 50'x 45'.

Information on elm cultivars from Morton Arboretum:

http://www.mortonarb.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=20791&Itemid=6



DID YOU KNOW? NSA's horticulture program promotes underutilized species. Find plants at nsaplants.org.

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