



## Paulownia tomentosa



<b>Height</b>	10 - 15 (20) m, fast growing
<b>Crown</b>	flat-topped sphere, half-open crown, capricious growing
<b>Bark and branches</b>	greyish brown, young twigs greenish brown, velvety
<b>Leaf</b>	heart-shaped to broad oval, green, 15 - 40 cm
<b>Flowers</b>	lavender blue, in upright plumes up to approx. 30 cm, May
<b>Fruits</b>	ovoid capsule, remaining on tree for a long time
<b>Spines/thorns</b>	None
<b>Toxicity</b>	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
<b>Soil type</b>	all types, preferably not wet
<b>Paving</b>	tolerates no paving
<b>Winter hardiness zone</b>	6b (-20,5 to -17,8 °C)
<b>Wind resistance</b>	moderate to poor
<b>Other resistances</b>	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
<b>Fauna tree</b>	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), valuable for bees (honey plant)
<b>Application</b>	avenues and broad streets, parks, squares, cemeteries, large gardens
<b>Shape</b>	clearstem tree, multi-stem tree
<b>Origin</b>	China
<b>Synonyms</b>	Paulownia imperialis

A tree with sturdy, thick, protruding branches that produce a curvaceous crown shape. The bark is greyish brown, later becoming rough. Young branches are thick and have velvety hair. Older branches become bare and hollow. The leaves are often equally wide and long and sometimes up to 40 cm in fully robust trees. They feel velvety because of hairs on the top and bottom. The leaf stem can grow up to 20 cm long. Shortly before the leaves appear, the flowers bloom in terminal, branched plumes. The flower heads have soft hairs and are light brown in colour. They start in the previous summer, creating a risk that they can freeze during a harsh winter. The flowers are a bright lavender blue and 5 - 6 cm long. Paulownia requires a sheltered site.