

slippery elm [Ulmaceae](#) *Ulmus rubra* Muhl.  symbol: ULRU

vTree

Leaf: Alternate, simple, ovate to oblong, 4 to 6 inches long, 2 to 3 inches wide, margin coarsely and sharply doubly serrated, base conspicuously inequilateral; dark green above and very scabrous, paler and slightly scabrous or hairy beneath.

Flower: Species is monoecious; small, light green, in tight clusters of 3 to 5, appearing in early spring before leaves open.

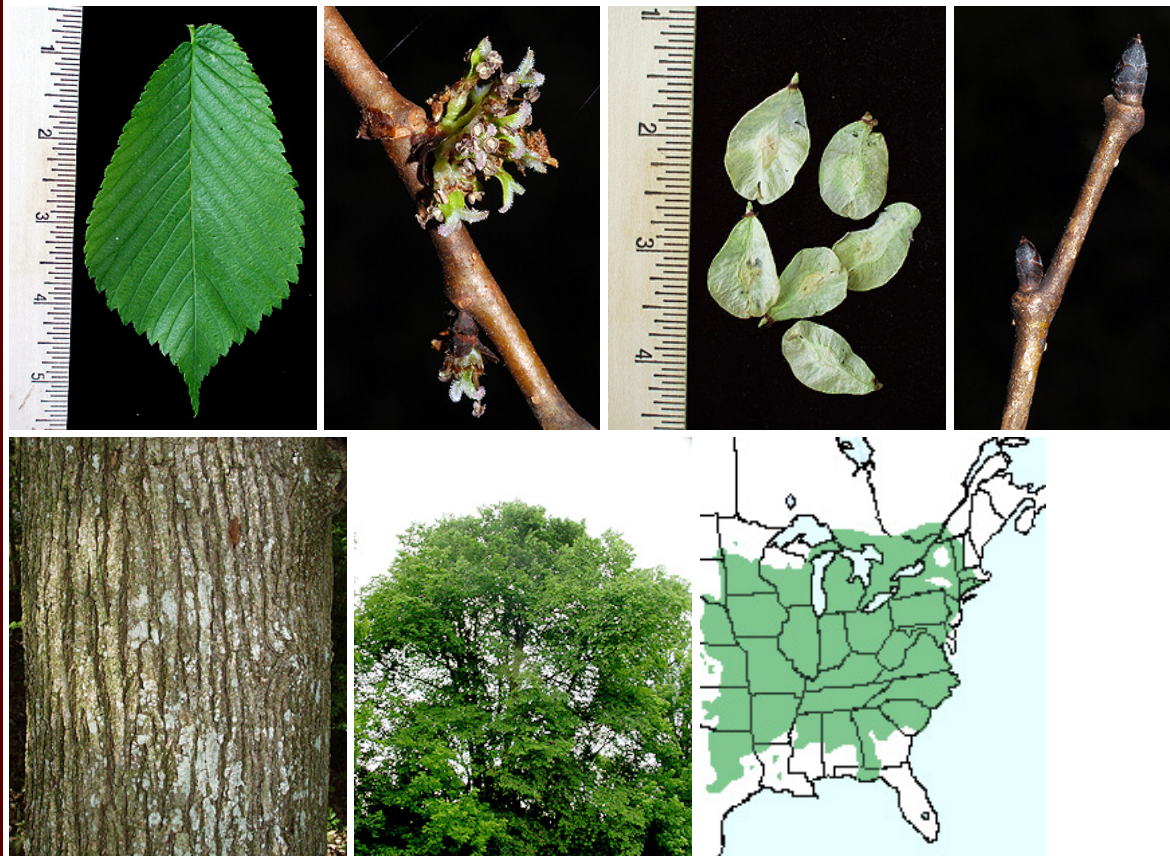
Fruit: Round, papery samara, 3/4 to 1 inch across, margin and surface of wing smooth; surface of seed cavity pubescent, ripen in late spring.

Twig: Often stouter than American elm, slightly zigzag, ashy gray to brownish-gray (often mottled), scabrous; false terminal bud, lateral buds dark, chestnut brown to nearly black; buds may be rusty-hairy, twigs mucilaginous when chewed.

Bark: Dark reddish brown, does not show buff-colored patches or streaks when sectioned; bark fissures not as diamond-shaped as American elm; inner bark mucilaginous.

Form: Medium sized tree to 80 feet, trunk usually free of branches for a greater length than American elm, branches also less drooping.

Looks like: [American elm](#) - [winged elm](#) - [rock elm](#) - [cedar elm](#)



Additional Range Information:
Ulmus rubra is native to North America. Range may be expanded by planting. [See states reporting slippery elm.](#)

External Links:
[USDAFS Silvics of North America](#)
[USDAFS Additional Silvics](#)
[USDA Plants Database](#)

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