

North Dakota Tree Selector

Scientific Name: *Salix alba*
'Vitellina'

Family: Salicaceae (Willow)

Hardiness: Zone 2

Leaves: Deciduous

Plant Type: Tree

Growth

Rate: Fast

Mature Height: >45'

Longevity: Long

Power Line: No

Ornamental

Flowers: Inconspicuous

Fruit: n/a

Fall Color: Yellow

Golden Willow

Description

A large low-branching tree forming a broad round-topped crown with slender. Native to Europe and central Asia. Widely planted as a yard tree. Its branches shed easily throughout the season and make it somewhat of a nuisance tree in yards.

Preferences

Light: Full sun to partial shade.

Water: Does well in moist soils and survives severe flooding. Often dies back during extended drought.

Soil: Performs best in deep loam soils or along stream beds and wetlands.

Comments

Bright yellow stems are characteristic of golden willow, however the plant must be cut back to encourage the yellow stems. The color only occurs on new or young growth.

Because of the fast growth willows tend to have brittle wood and are susceptible to ice and wind storms. Tend to drop branches and has been referred to as a "dirty tree" for its tendency to lose branches and leaves.

Credits: Tree Selector Website, North Dakota Tree Handbook.

