

#Lime

small-leaved lime
Tilia cordata L.



leaves



flowers



fruit



bark

Characteristics

Mostly found as a tree up to 30 m high.

- ❖ **Leaves** are deciduous, cordate (heart-like), finely serrate margins, 3-9 cm long and wide, dark green and glabrous above (reddish-brown hairs in vein-axils beneath).
- ❖ **Flowers** are green-yellowish and form clusters of five to eleven with a leafy yellow-green subtending bract (leaf-like formation connected to stalk).
- ❖ **Fruit** is a nut, aprox. 0,5 cm large, reddish-brown, smooth (no ribs or slightly ribbed) connected to a wing for better dispersal.
- ❖ **Bark** is brown-greenish when young, but in older individuals becomes dark brown with longitudinal ridges.



Distribution

Central. Western and eastern Europe, all the way to Russia, except Mediterranean and northern Scandinavia.



Don't mistake with

Small-leaved lime can be **mistaken** for broad-leaved lime, *Tilia platyphyllos* Scop. which has larger leaves (more than 8 cm) with white hairs in vein-axils beneath. Broad-leaved lime has strongly 5-ribbed fruit (nut).



(source: Jäger, E. J., Müller, F., Ritz, C. M., Welk, E., Wesche, K., 2013: Rothmalter Exkursionsflora von Deutschland, Gefäßpflanzen: Atlasband, 12. Auflage, page 524. Springer-Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg.)