Medium-size tree with a broad ovoid crown from 15 to 20 m tall. The young twigs are quite thin, in the first season covered in red hairs, then hairless. The matt green leaves are round with a heart-shaped base and a pointed to wedge-shaped tip. The leaf margin is serrated with blunt teeth. At 4 to 5 cm long, the leaf is quite small, reminiscent of a birch. The blossom appears in July and corymbs of fragrant light yellow flowers appear from the leaf axils. They are followed by equally reddish brown hairy fruits. Elegant tree that differs from the species *T. amurensis* in that all parts are smaller and that it has hairy, red young twigs, whereas *T. amurensis* has white hairs. The tree likes a warm, sunny site, makes few demands in terms of soil and grows in any well-drained, nutrient-rich soil, provided it is not too acid.