

March 2013



Beautiful white bark of Betula utilis Jacquemontii

First discovered in Nepal in the 1841 and originally classified as *Betula jacquemontii*, it was later realised that was actually a variety of *Betula utilis*. In Latin 'utilis' indicates that parts of the tree have many uses, the most common being the peeling bark for paper.

Himalayan birch is one of the most popular trees that we offer at Deepdale, the most alluring feature being the brilliant chalk-white bark which offers year round interest.

It is a fast growing, deciduous tree, graceful in appearance and offering light dappled shade with its open, conical crown.

In spring, yellow catkins appear, closely followed by dark green ovate leaves, lighter on the underside which rustle and shimmer in the breeze. In autumn, the foliage turns a glorious golden yellow before falling and leaving us again with the elegant framework of pure white branches.

Plant Profile

Name: *Betula utilis var. Jacquemontii*

Common Name: West Himalayan Birch

Family: Betulaceae

Height: 15-20m

Demands: Very few. Grows well in almost any location

Bark: Bright, white peeling bark making it one of the most desirable birches

Foliage: Ovate and slightly serrated. Dark green above with a lighter underside turning yellow in Autumn

Flower: Yellow-brown catkins in early Spring

Available from Deepdale as a standard, feathered or multi-stemmed plant



20-25cm girth semi mature standards



Deepdale

Betula utilis var. *Jacquemontii*

West Himalayan Birch

Deepdale

The white, paper-like bark of the tree was used in ancient times for writing Sanskrit scriptures and texts



Himalayan birch bark



Himalayan birch 5-6m multistems



Betula Jacquemontii 4-5m feathered



Betula utilis Jacquemontii 2-3m multistems



Autumn foliage on multistems