

Tilia americana

Basswood, American Linden, Bee Tree, Honey Tree

Height: 50' to 80'

Spread: 30' to 50'

Sun: Part shade to full sun

Soil Moisture: Mesic to Dry

Soil Types: Loam, but will grow in clay

Bloom Time: June

Bloom Description: Pale yellow and very fragrant.

The drooping flowers last about two weeks.

Leaf: Leaves are large and heart shaped

Fruit: ¼" nutlets

Uses: Shade tree. Specimen tree. Spring blooms.

Honey, tea and syrup.

Wildlife:

Nectar: Bees

Larval Host: Several moth species

Pollinators: The very fragrant flowers attract 66 species of insects from 29 families as pollinators.

Deer Resistant: No

Comments: Basswood honey is prized for its flavor and is described by one online marketer as "light in color, delicate and mild. This single-varietal honey features warm herbal notes and a clean finish." Flowers have been used to make tea and the

sweet tree sap to make syrup. The fragrant flowers are also distilled for use in perfumes. The soft wood is prized by woodcarvers. The tree's edible leaves have been used for livestock and human consumption and the fibrous, pliable inner bark (bast) was a significant source of fiber for ropes, cords, mats and nets used by Native Americans and early European settlers. Oil from the linden seed pod has been extracted and used as a substitute for olive oil.

