



# Paulownia fortunei FAST BLUE ( 'Minfast' )



<b>Height</b>	15-20 m
<b>Width</b>	10-12m
<b>Crown</b>	pyramidal, half open crown
<b>Bark and branches</b>	twigs reddish brown, bark greyish brown
<b>Leaf</b>	oval, up to 20 cm long, medium green
<b>Flowers</b>	lila violet, in upright panicles, approx. 35 cm long, late April-early May
<b>Fruits</b>	ovoid capsule, brown, long-lasting
<b>Spines/thorns</b>	None
<b>Toxicity</b>	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
<b>Soil type</b>	any, preferably not wet soil
<b>Paving</b>	tolerates no paving
<b>Winter hardiness zone</b>	6b (-20,5 to -17,8 °C)
<b>Wind resistance</b>	not good to moderate
<b>Other resistances</b>	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
<b>Fauna tree</b>	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), valuable for bees (honey plant)
<b>Application</b>	avenues and broad streets
<b>Shape</b>	clearstem tree

FAST BLUE is a medium-sized tree up to about 20 m tall. The crown is pyramidal, distinguishing the tree from all other Paulownia species. The grey-brown bark remains smooth for a long time and will only become shallowly grooved later in life. The oval leaves are up to 20 cm long and medium green in colour. Besides the good pyramidal crown shape, flowering is the main ornamental value. The flower panicles are formed before winter, but the flowers open in April. The flower panicles are about 35 cm long but can reach almost 50 cm. The flowers are lilaviolet, a fraction darker than in *P. tomentosa* and up to 10 cm in size. FAST BLUE flowers also open about two weeks earlier than in *P. tomentosa*. They are followed by egg-shaped box fruits that usually remain on the tree until after winter.

FAST BLUE grows in any soil, provided it is not too wet and is sufficiently permeable. The tree tolerates a lot of heat and sunlight. However, FAST BLUE is sensitive to wind and the flower buds can also freeze during prolonged periods of frost. A somewhat sheltered location is therefore recommended.