

## Zelkova serrata 'Musashino'

## Japanese Columnar Zelkova

Zone: 5-8

Height: 45'

Width: 15'

Crown: Upright vase, with weeping new growth

Growth: Fast

Pests: None

Soil: Adaptable

Disease: Aerial phytophthora

Drought: Tolerant



This Zelkova is fairly new to the landscape market in the US, but it is used in Japan. It is probably the most upright Zelkova, even more so than Green Vase. The neat thing about it is that while it is upright, the new growth is weeping. It looks similar to timber bamboo with, it's weeping branches rustling in the breeze. Zelkovas in Oregon tend to be susceptible to aerial phytophthora, a fall and winter disease that will infect any wound. It will cause cankers on the trunk and limbs, and kill cambial tissue. Any kind of wound will serve as an opening for this pathogen: pruning, lawn mower, shipping, frost cracks or expansion fissures.

Spraying with a systemic phosphoric acid in the fall seems to help. Pruning cuts should be sprayed with protective fungicides immediately. 'Musashino' is a very fine tree and will be seen more often as it becomes more available. Robinson Nursery offers 'Musashino' as branched and whip trees.