

**Table S1.** The grading standard of leaf-related traits of *Eucommia ulmoides* Oliver in different tree ages.

| Traits | Tree ages | Planting models <sup>a</sup> | Grading points |                    |                         |          |                    |                         |
|--------|-----------|------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------------|
|        |           |                              | 1st            | Merge <sup>b</sup> | Adjustment <sup>c</sup> | 2nd      | Merge <sup>b</sup> | Adjustment <sup>c</sup> |
| LA     | 1         | L                            | 16,465.4       | 16,465.4           | 16,465                  | 19,288.8 | 19,288.8           | 19,230                  |
|        | 8         | A                            | 4,475.3        |                    |                         | 6,221.2  |                    |                         |
|        | 9         | A                            | 4,367.2        | 4,731.8            | 4,730                   | 5,419.4  | 6,033.2            | 6,035                   |
|        | 10        | A                            | 5,352.9        |                    |                         | 6,459.0  |                    |                         |
| TNL    | 1         | L                            | 32             | 32                 | 32                      | 37       | 37                 | 37                      |
|        | 9         | A                            | 1,367          | 1,426              | 1,430                   | 1,944    | 2,108              | 2,100                   |
|        | 10        | A                            | 1,485          |                    |                         | 2,272    |                    |                         |
| GP (%) | 1         | L                            | 0.99           | 0.99               | 1.00                    | 1.21     | 1.21               | 1.20                    |
|        | 8         | A                            | 1.52           |                    |                         | 1.99     |                    |                         |
|        | 9         | A                            | 1.56           | 1.59               | 1.60                    | 2.01     | 2.04               | 2.05                    |
|        | 10        | A                            | 1.70           |                    |                         | 2.13     |                    |                         |
| CA (%) | 1         | L                            | 1.34           | 1.34               | 1.35                    | 1.90     | 1.90               | 1.90                    |
|        | 9         | A                            | 0.98           | 1.005              | 1.00                    | 1.42     | 1.48               | 1.50                    |
|        | 10        | A                            | 1.03           |                    |                         | 1.54     |                    |                         |

<sup>a</sup> “L” indicates the Leaf-oriented cultivation model, “A” indicates the Arbor forest model.

<sup>b</sup> Average the phenotypic values in the same planting model for the same trait.

<sup>c</sup> Adjust the grading points.