

AgBark



A series of tree insights

Did you know?

Its sap is sweet and can be tapped in the spring for syrup and sugar.

Overview

- They can create new growth from their stump or roots if cut down.
- It is commonly found in rich soils on river banks.
- Also known as the American plane tree.

Tree Details

Easily recognized for its smooth white, green and gray bark and is often referred to as camouflage bark.

It is a fast growing tree, often over 100 feet tall and can be three to eight feet in diameter.

The leaves are large with three to five lobes that alternate with toothed margins.

American Sycamore



Kingdom: *Plantae*

Class: *Magnoliopsida*

Order: *Hamamelidales*

Family: *Platanaceae T. Lestib*

Genus: *Platanus L.*

Species: *Platanus occidentalis L.*

Sycamore in Agriculture

- It is often planted in parks and other ornamental and landscaping purposes.
- It is often used for making crates and pallets that are commonly used at local produce and farmers markets.
- This odorless and non-staining wood is frequently used for kitchen utensils, wooden spoons, bowls and chopping boards.
- It is used for making musical instruments, furniture and wood flooring.

History

- Its common name, sycamore, was given by European settlers because it looked like the British Isles sycamore.
- Fossil leaves and fruit impressions from Plane trees are common records from the last age of the dinosaurs (Cretaceous Period, 100 million years ago).
- Early 20th Century wooden washing machines were made from Sycamore.

Sources:

1. <https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/fnr/fnr-291-w.pdf>
2. <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/platanus-occidentalis/>
3. <https://ufi.ca.uky.edu/treetalk/ecobot-sycamore>
4. <https://plants.usda.gov/>

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