

Sycamore Maple

(*Acer pseudoplatanus*)

Identification:

Similar to the native Sycamore, the bark appears flaky and multi-colored with large angularly lobed leaves, which are leathery, unlike the native Sycamore. Yellowish-green flowers appear in May as long drooping pillars, which are followed by large green samaras (winged seeds).

Habitat and Spread:

The samaras are winged to achieve seed dispersal by wind, and can grow from seed primarily in disturbed areas, forest edges, or along coasts. *A. pseudoplatanus* is tolerant of shade, an array of soil conditions and polluted habitats.



Management Techniques:

Aside from pulling plants while they are relatively young, cutting and treating resprouts with herbicide has shown to be the most effective method of management.

Native Range and Original Introduction:

Originally from Europe and Western Asia, the Sycamore Maple was introduced as a landscape tree for shady areas. However the species shows significant preference toward coastal habitats, and is currently retained to the Northeastern United States.



Photos by Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org