

Acer pseudoplatanus, Sycamore Maple

Another invasive *Acer*, Sycamore Maple is an important plant for ecological reasons in Europe but not so much here in America where it has been planted as a shade tree due to its durable foliage and salt tolerance.

Population Status: Historical- Albany, Rensselaer, Columbia Co.'s

Description: This maple has leathery, serrated leaves with five lobes that are dark green during the growing season. Like Japanese maple, they have pairs of samaras that mature in the early autumn. Mature trees have flaking bark and the wood beneath is orange. It is a host for Tar Spot fungus, like most maple species. It is a large tree that can be 100 feet tall. Flowers of this tree are small and grow in yellow clusters.

Control: Small seedlings can be hand-pulled.

Look-alikes: Other maple species, notably the Norway maple. (Invasive, tier 4) Can be differentiated by less sharp lobing on the leaves as well as smaller leaf size (about 6 inches across when mature) that exhibit a wavy tendency.

Flower Time and Description: This tree blooms in May in panicles which are yellow-green and five inches or less long.

