



RED MAPLE

Acer rubrum

The red maple is a fast growing, deciduous tree with a tall, straight trunk and rounded crown. It reaches maturity usually between 70 to 80 years, and seldom lives longer than 150 years.

The red maple is a medium to large sized tree normally growing between 18 to 25 metres tall. It has been known to reach 30 metres in good growing conditions. It's canopy can be 7 to 10 metres across. The trunk can measure 30 to 75 cm in diameter.



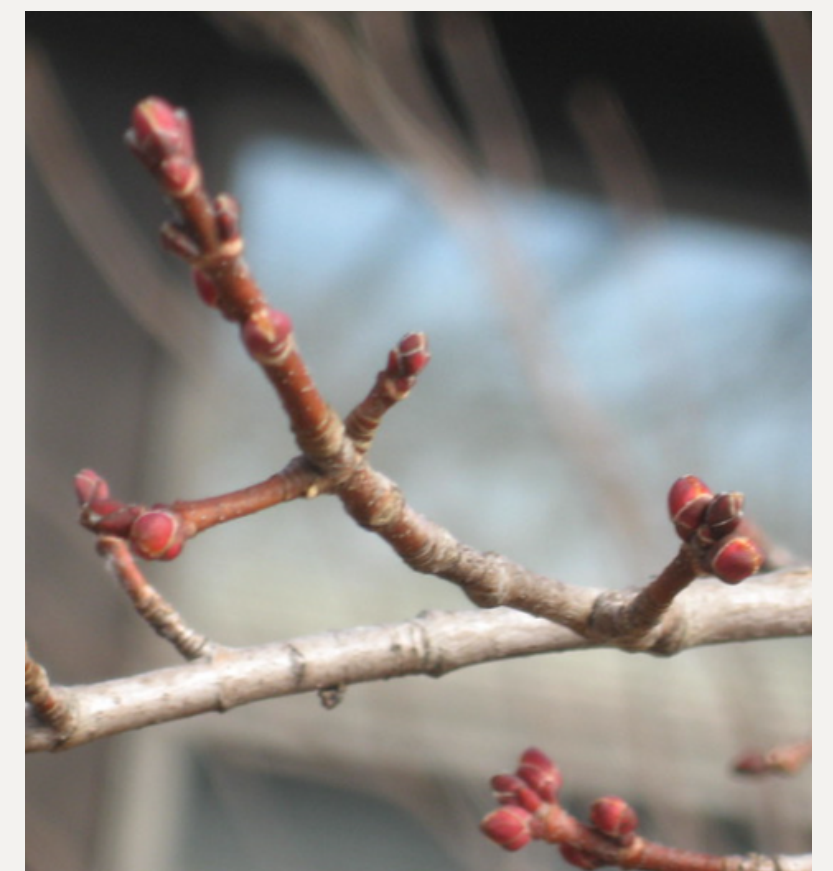
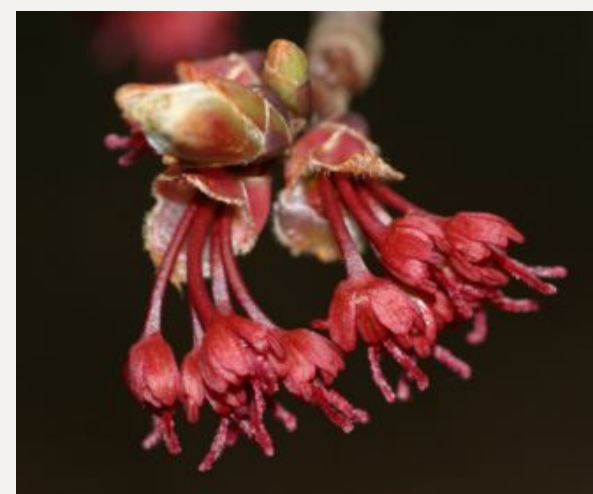
TREE IDENTIFICATION

Red maple have opposite leaf buds. The leaves have 3 to 5 lobed with coarsely toothed margins.

The notches of the leaves are sharp, unlike the sugar maple that has round notches.

In general, the different parts of the red maple have a reddish coloration: leaf stalk, twigs, flowers and fruit.

An abundance of flowers are produced in early spring followed by seeds called samara.



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HABITAT & RANGE

-  Red maples have the ability to thrive in a large number of habitat types and soil types, largely due to their ability to produce roots to suit their specific site.
-  Habitats range from low wetlands to dry ridges.
-  Their geographic range spans most of eastern North America, from southern Newfoundland down to Florida and Texas.



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INTERESTING FACTS

Seeds germinate and grow as soon as they hit the ground, often producing several leaves in the first summer.

The sap from red maple trees is sometimes used in maple syrup.



References

- Dickerson, J. (2002). United States Department of Agriculture Plant Guide: Red Maple. Retrieved August 10, 2012, from http://plants.usda.gov/factsheet/pdf/fs_acru.pdf
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