

Acer saccharinum



silver maple

Family	Aceraceae	
Origin	Native	
WIS Code	FACW	CoC 5



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DESCRIPTION

This large tree (to 40 m tall) has light gray flaky bark and green twigs. Leaves are simple, opposite (14 to 20 cm), and deeply five-lobed with coarsely toothed margins. The upper leaf surface is dark green and smooth, the lower surface is silvery-white and softly hairy, and the leaves turn a dull yellow in the fall.

FLOWERS AND FRUITS

March to May. Flowers are in dense round clusters with three to six flowers, yellowish-red or greenish and forming before the leaves emerge at the tips of the branches. Male and female flowers are on separate trees or on separate branches on the same tree. Fruits are green to tan, paired winged seeds (samaras) 4 to 7.5 cm long.



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HABITAT

Floodplain forests, wet depressions, stream banks, swamps.

SIMILAR SPECIES

The leaves of *Acer saccharum*, sugar maple, are not as deeply lobed as those of *A. saccharinum* and are often smooth or only hairy along the veins on the underside of the leaves (not velvety hairy).



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Male flower



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Fruit



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A. saccharum