CHECKLIST OF CULTIVATED MAPLES.
IV. ACER SACCHARINUM L.

by Frank S. Santamour, Jr. and Alice Jacot McArdle

Old silver maples (Acer saccharinum L.) still abound along city streets and in parks and private grounds in most of the large urban areas of northeastern United States and eastern Canada. Some are still being planted by homeowners who want a “fast-growing” tree, but municipalities have drastically curtailed the use of this species (2). In some jurisdictions, silver maple has been placed on a list of trees that are “forbidden” to be planted.

Silver maple has the reputation of being “weak-wooded” and thus subject to breakage in storms. Its roots invade water lines and septic tanks. Its seedlings sprout abundantly in lawns, gutters, and gardens. But still, this swamp-dwelling American native does have the kind of “urban tolerance” needed for survival in a deteriorating environment. New selections should be made and tested before we relegate this species to the horticultural “scrap-heap.”

The scientific name Acer saccharinum L. is undeniably the valid and accepted name for this species. The use of A. dasycarpum Ehrhart, as practiced by several nurseries, is apparently an attempt to avoid possible confusion of the name A. saccharinum with A. saccharum (sugar maple). The use of incorrect nomenclature usually creates more problems than it solves.

This checklist of silver maple cultivars is the fourth in our current series. Previous checklists (3, 4, 5) have been published on red maple (A. rubrum L.), sugar maple (A. saccharum Marshall), and Norway maple (A. platanoides L.). There are hundreds of cultivars of the “ornamental” Japanese maple (A. palmatum Thunberg), and while a completely authoritative checklist is not currently available, the work of Vertrees (6) should be consulted as a reference. There is, perhaps, only one more maple species in which there has been sufficient selection and nomenclatural activity to warrant a checklist, and that is A. pseudoplatanus L., the sycamore maple or “sycamore” of Europe. Inasmuch as A. pseudoplatanus is not particularly well adapted to the United States or widely used here, we have decided not to extend our work to this species.

Cultivar checklists are published to establish and maintain stability in the nomenclature of cultivated plants according to the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (1). The U.S. National Arboretum assumed temporary International Registration Authority for unassigned genera of woody plants on January 1, 1981. These “unassigned” genera include all those for which comprehensive checklists have not yet been published by other agencies or organizations — that is, the majority of woody landscape plants. Nurserymen, horticulturists, or scientists who wish to register a new cultivar or who desire information relative to the registration process are urged to contact Dr. T.R. Dudley, International Registrar, at the U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, D.C. 20002.

In the checklist that follows, VALID CULTIVAR names are given in boldface capitals and INVALID CULTIVAR names in lightface capitals.

| ALBO-MACULATUM (F. Pax, Bot. Jahrb. 7: 177-263, 1886) | leaf base cuneate, leaf spotted white, = VARIEGATUM. |
| ALBO-VARIEGATUM (F.L. Spaeth, Gartenzeitung 1883, p. 513) | leaves mottled white, = VARIEGATUM. |
| ARBUSCULA (F. Schwerin, Gartenflora 42: 161-714, 1893) | shrub, branches numerous, autumn leaves red. |
| ARGENTEUM STRIATUM (Ellwanger & Barry — Mount Hope Nurs. — Rochester, New York, Cat. 1875, p. 6) | variegated foliage. |
| ASPLENIFOLIUM (H.J. Grootendorst, Dendroflora Nr. 6, 1969, p. 3-18) | origin given as “De Bie-van Aalst, 1925,” tree more upright than ‘Wieri,’ leaves less spreading, deeply cut, often with small holes. |
| AUREUM (Naperville Nurs., Naperville, Illinois, General Price List No. 355, Fall 1934, p. 3) | as Golden maple. |

BEEBE = BEEBE CUTLEAF WEEPING

BICOLOR (F. Schwerin, Mitt. Deutsch. Dendr. Ges. 10: 58-65, 1901) — leaves flecked yellow, not as beautiful as other variegated forms, variegation more obvious when leaf matures.


Borus Graciosa — Name found in records of Plant Sciences Data Center of the American Horticultural Society. — Borns Graciosa.


Crispum (Ellwanger & Barry — Mount Hope Nurs. — Rochester, New York, Cat. 1875, p. 6) — with delicately cut and curled foliage.


Elegant (H.J. Grootendorst, Dendroflora Nr. 6, 1869, p. 3-18) — new name, more compact than most trees of the species, leaves cut to about one-half leaf length.

Fasciatum (E.A. Carriere, Production et Fixation de Varietes dans les Vegetaux, Paris, 1885, p. 43) — monstrous, fasciated branches.

Fastigiatum (H.J. Grootendorst, Dendroflora Nr. 6, 1869, p. 3-18) = Pyramidal.


Golden (Jewell Nurseries Inc., Lake City, Minnesota, Wholesale Price List, Fall 1947-Spring 1948, p. 10) — without description. Described later, Fall 1949-Spring 1950, p. 9, as a sport of silver maple attractive for its orange-gold bark. May have been sold since 1920’s. Records of the Plant Sciences Data Center of the American Horticultural Society list a ‘Golden’ silver maple growing at the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. The Arnold tree was obtained from Cole Nursery Co., Painesville, Ohio in 1953 and may be the cultivar sold as ‘Lutea.’

Hance’s Variegated (A. Hance & Son, Red Bank, New Jersey, Cat. 1879, p. 3, illus. on frontispiece) — leaves regularly striped, splashed with creamy white throughout growing season, withstands sun.


Heterophyllum Laciniatum (Ellwanger & Barry — Mount Hope Nurs. — Rochester, New York, Cat. 1880, p. 6, illus. p. 7) — luxuriant erect grower with handsomely cut or dissected leaves, differs from Wier’s in having foliage more deeply cut. Raised by Ellwanger & Barry.


Laciniatum (F. Pax, Bot. Jahrb. 7: 177-263, 1886) — as cultivar grex, or group, name for trees with deeply dissected leaves.

Laciniatum Beebe (B. Harkness, Phytologia 9: 428-430, 1964) = BEEBE CUTLEAF WEEPING.

Lactescens (F. Schwerin, Gartenflora 41: 501, 1892) — leaves speckled gray and white.


Lutea (Cole Nursery Co., Painesville, Ohio, Cat. Fall 1953, p. 1) — as Golden silver maple, bark orange on young branches, fall leaf color yellow, = Luteum to correct orthography.

Lutescens (F.L. Spaeth, Gartenzeitung 1883, p. 513) — young leaves orange, later yellow-green.


Macrophyllum (E. Petzold and G. Kirchner, Arboretum Muscaviense, Gotla, 1864, p. 187) — leaves very large.


PULVERULENTUM (F. L. Spaeth, Gartenzeitung 1883, p. 513) — leaves dotted white, = VARIEGATUM.

PYRAMIDALIS (F. L. Spaeth, Berlin, Cat. No. 109, 1901-1902, p. 64) — branches erect, tree pyramidal. First listed in 1895-96 catalog.


VILLOSUM (F. Schwerin, Gartenflora 42: 161-714, 1893) — leaves dotted white, = AUREO VARIEGATUM.


PYRAMIDALIS (F. L. Spaeth, Berlin, Cat. No. 355, Fall 1934, p. 3) — may = VARIEGATUM.

WIERII LACINIATUM (Ellwanger & Barry — Mount Hope Nurs. — Rochester, New York, Cat. 1875, p. 6) = WAGNERI.

WIERII LACINIATUM (Ellwanger & Barry — Mount Hope Nurs. — Rochester, New York, Cat. 1875, p. 6) = WAGNERI.

WAGNERI (J. H. Skinner & A. Dayton, Standardized Plant Names, 1942, p. 5) = PENDULUM.


WAGNERI (E. Petzold, Arboretum Muscaviense, Gotha, 1864, p. 1) — as A. Saira Hort. and received as such from the nursery of J. Mohnhaupt, Breslau.

WAGNERII LACINIATUM (Ellwanger & Barry — Mount Hope Nurs. — Rochester, New York, Cat. 1875, p. 6) = WAGNERI.


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YELLOW BRONZE (H. P. Kelsey and W. A. Dayton, Standardized Plant Names, 1942, p. 5) = LUTESCENS.
ABSTRACT


Air pollution is one of the many unnatural stress factors affecting the growth and survival of shade trees in and around urban areas. Concentrations of ozone, sulfur dioxide, and suspended particulates frequently exceed federal air quality standards throughout much of the United States. This article is aimed at providing practicing arborists with a better understanding of the air pollution problems they may encounter. In the second article in this series, we will examine differences in responses of trees to air pollution and describe which shade trees can best tolerate pollution problems. While there are many different types of air pollutants, arborists are unlikely to encounter tree problems for most of them. Some pollutants which commonly cause tree injury are ozone, sulfur dioxide, herbicide drift, and deicing salt spray.