Populus alba ‘Nivea’ (Snowy poplar) is the cultivar most similar to the main species. In 1789, the selection was made at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew in England. It is a tree forming male cultivar, between 15 and 20 metres high and wide, with a round, semi-open crown.

The snowy poplar differs from the main species with its strong silver to white leaves; the white particularly stands out in the spring. That is where it gets its name the snowy poplar; the cultivar name ‘Nivea’ means snow-white. Not just the young, palmate lobate leaves are very white. On the older leaves, the underside stays feltly white and hairy and the young twigs also have woolly, chalk-white hair. The tops of the leaves are green in the summer. They turn a striking yellow in autumn. *Populus alba* ‘Nivea’ blooms silver-grey catkins in March - April to develop the leaves.

The ‘Nivea’ cultivar easily takes root from a cutting and is therefore often used as a rootstock for *Populus x canescens*. The proper embedding with its own roots makes the snowy poplar very wind-proof and furthermore, the tree tolerates coastal winds and salt spray. That makes it suitable for use in dune planting, windbreaks and landscape planting. *Populus alba* ‘Nivea’ can be planted in any soil that is not too heavy, but does not tolerate pavement due to its shallow roots.

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**SEASONAL COLOURS**

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**TYPES OF PLANTING**

Tree types: standard trees, multi-stemmed trees

**USE**

Location: park, traffic areas, industrial zones, countryside, windbreak, coastal area | Pavement: none | Planting concepts: Landscape planting, Solid planting

**CHARACTERISTICS**

Crown shape: rounded | Crown structure: semi-open | Height: 15 - 20 m | Width: 15 - 20 m | Winter hardiness zone: 3A - 9B

**ASPECTS**

Wind: tolerant to wind, tolerant to coastal wind | Soil: loess, sabulous clay, peaty, light clay, sand, loamy soil | Nutrient level: moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | Soil moisture level: dry, moist | Light requirements: sun | pH range: acidic, neutral, alkaline | Host plant/forage plant: butterflies | Extreme environments: tolerant to salt spray, tolerates air pollution

**PLANTKENMERKEN**

Flowers: catkins, pendulous, small | Flower colour: silver | Flowering period: March - April | Leaf colour: silver, underside feltly white | Leaves: deciduous, palmate, dentate, lobate | Autumn colour: yellow | Fruits: no fruit | Bark colour: pale grey, black | Bark: furrowed | Twig colour: grey | Twigs: hairy | Root system: shallow, root suckers,