

# Populus 'Astria'

## Aspen 'Astria'



*Populus 'Astria'* is a very healthy hybrid between the European tetraploid *Populus tremula* and the North American diploid *Populus tremuloides*. The selection was developed in 1983 by the Hessian Institute for Forest Plant Breeding in Germany by Professor Weisgerber. The tree forms an oval crown and reaches about eighteen meters in height and ten meters in width. Because the hybrid is triploid, this aspen has the advantage of producing wood with longer fibers and greater volume growth.

The trunk of *Populus 'Astria'* is straight, smooth and dark brown. The young twigs are glossy yellow brown. The dark green to blue green leaves have a lighter underside and are round with a lobed margin. Like any true aspen, the leaves of this tree produce the characteristic trembling sound. In autumn the foliage turns bright yellow. The light gray catkins of the selection 'Astria' develop into cottony seed clusters after pollination.

*Populus 'Astria'* tolerates wind and sea wind well. It can be planted on all soil types except heavy clay, provided that the site is not too shaded. The hybrid is resistant to rust and Marssonina but unfortunately sensitive to bacterial canker. The tree has inherited the tendency to produce root suckers from both parent species. *Populus 'Astria'* is propagated through tissue culture and is therefore always grown on its own roots. This aspen deserves wider use in landscape plantings and in avenues.

### TYPES OF PLANTING

**Tree types:** standard trees, multi-stemmed trees

### USE

**Location:** avenue, park, large garden, cemetery, countryside, windbreak, coastal area | **Pavement:** none | **Planting concepts:** Landscape planting

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** ovoid | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 10 - 18 m | **Width:** 5 - 10 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 2A - 7B

### 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, wet | **Light requirements:** sun, partial shade | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant:** butterflies | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to salt spray, tolerates air pollution, tolerant to short-term flooding

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** catkins, pendulous | **Flower colour:** pale grey | **Flowering period:** April - April | **Leaf colour:** dark green, underside pale green | **Leaves:** deciduous, orbicular, dentate, lobate | **Autumn colour:** yellow | **Fruits:** discrete, catkins, pappuses, capsules | **Fruit colour:** yellow-brown | **Bark colour:** dark brown | **Bark:** smooth | **Twig colour:** yellow-brown | **Twigs:** bare | **Root system:** shallow, extensive, root suckers, , on own root

