



Populus tremuloides

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Populus tremuloides is a widespread pioneer species native to North America, ranging from the mountains of northern Mexico all the way to Alaska. In its natural habitat, this tree grows together with species such as *Acer saccharum*, *Populus grandidentata* and *Tilia americana*. The species grows larger than *Populus tremula*, reaching a height of approximately twenty to twenty five meters and a width of seven to nine meters. It develops an oval, semi open crown.

The leaf margin of *Populus tremuloides* is much finer and more evenly toothed than that of *Populus tremula*. Otherwise, the leaves are quite similar: round to ovate, with a pointed tip and roughly the same size. They also produce the same characteristic trembling or rattling sound in the wind. *Populus tremuloides* can be recognized by the bark of young trees and branches. At first glance the bark appears white and smooth with black markings, but on closer inspection it is often more yellow gray or pale yellow than that of the European aspen. Both male and female trees produce catkins before leaf emergence. These catkins are smaller and more slender than those of *Populus tremula*. Female trees release their seeds in summer by means of abundant cotton like seed fluff from the capsules.

The American aspen prefers moist, humus rich soils that are acidic to neutral, but it is quite tolerant as long as soils are not extremely dry or permanently wet. The species produces fewer root suckers than *Populus tremula*. Even so, in nature it still spreads more often through root suckers than by seed, resulting in groves consisting of a single clone. In Canada, *Populus tremuloides* is widely used as a timber species for the paper industry.

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, multi-stemmed trees

USE

Location: park, central reservation, large garden, countryside | **Pavement:** none | **Planting concepts:** Landscape planting, urban planting

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: ovoid | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 20 - 25 m | **Width:** 7 - 9 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 2A - 8B

ASPECTS

Soil: sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** moist | **Light requirements:** sun | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to dryness

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: catkins, discrete | **Flower colour:** yellow-green | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** green | **Leaves:** deciduous, ovoid, deltoid, polished, dentate | **Autumn colour:** golden yellow | **Fruits:** discrete | **Fruit colour:** yellow-brown | **Bark colour:** white, black | **Bark:** slightly furrowed | **Twig colour:** pale grey | **Twigs:** bare

