

# Populus tremula 'Tapiau'

## Aspen 'Tapiau'



*Populus tremula* 'Tapiau' is a triploid selection of *Populus tremula*. This provides advantages such as longer wood fibers and increased volume growth. The tree was selected from plantings along the German Mittelland Canal near Wedesbüttel. Eight clones were chosen there and are sold collectively under the selection name 'Tapiau'. The original plant material came from the forestry district of Tapiau in East Prussia, now part of Poland. The selection 'Tapiau' forms a vigorous, pyramidal, semi-open crown and reaches about fifteen meters in height.

The smooth gray trunk of *Populus tremula* 'Tapiau' develops a strong central leader. As the tree ages, the bark becomes rougher starting from the base. The cultivar flowers from late March to early April with silver white male catkins and pink female catkins. The dark green leaves are broadly ovate with a lighter underside. The long, flat petiole allows the leaves to flutter and produce a rattling sound at the slightest breeze. This petiole also causes the light underside and darker upper surface of the leaf to alternate in view, giving the crown a lively appearance. In autumn, the warm yellow to orange foliage creates a true display of color.

*Populus tremula* 'Tapiau' is suitable as a park tree and, due to its wind resistance, also performs well in rural areas, windbreaks, and as an avenue tree. Originally, however, this aspen was selected as an interesting clone for forestry because of its strong central leader. The shallow root system and tendency to produce root suckers make the selection 'Tapiau' unsuitable for paved areas. Because this tree—like the species—is soil tolerant and withstands short periods of drought and flooding, it is a very solid choice for challenging but well-lit sites.

### TYPES OF PLANTING

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

### USE

**Location:** park, central reservation, large garden, traffic areas, industrial zones, countryside, ecological zone, windbreak, bioswale, coastal area | **Pavement:** none | **Planting concepts:** Landscape planting, Solid planting

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** pyramidal | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 10 - 15 m | **Width:** 3 - 5 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 2A - 7B

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** tolerant to wind, slightly tolerant to coastal wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, peaty, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil, all soils | **Nutrient level:** low in nutrients, 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, tolerant to dryness, tolerates air pollution, tolerant to short-term flooding

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** catkins, pendulous | **Flower colour:** pale grey, silver | **Flowering period:** March - April | **Leaf colour:** dark green, underside grey-green | **Leaves:** deciduous, orbicular, ovate, underside hairy, dentate, undulate | **Autumn colour:** yellow, golden yellow, dark yellow, yellow-orange, orange | **Fruits:** discrete, catkins, pappuses, capsules | **Fruit colour:** yellow-brown | **Bark colour:** grey | **Bark:** smooth, later on rough | **Twig colour:** grey-green | **Twigs:** bare | **Root system:** deep, shallow, extensive, central root, root suckers, roots push up surface,

