



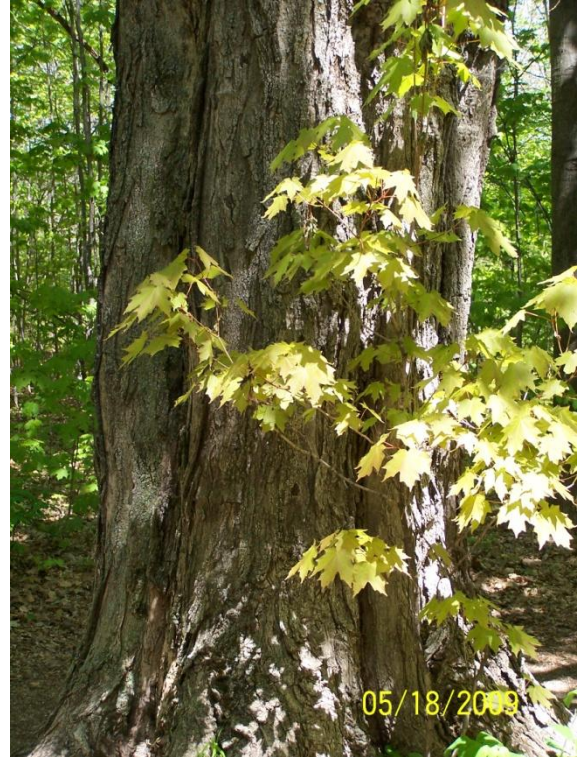
***Acer saccharum* Marsh**  
**Sugar Maple**

Family: *Aceraceae*. (USDA 2011)

Blooming season: Mid spring.

Plant: Perennial, Tree, Mature height is 100 feet. (USDA 2011)

Leaves: Dark green, 3 to 5 inches in length. Leaves may contain 3 to 5 lobes. The edge of the leaf will have multiple U shaped connections, with a slightly hairy underside. (Ohio State University)



Flower: Greenish yellow with long stalks appearing in a drooping cluster usually 1 to 2.5 inches long. Contains both male flowers (pistillate) and female flowers (staminate). (USDA 2011)

Fruit: The fruit has a double samara and has winged shaped characteristic. (USDA 2011)



Geographic range:

State: Throughout Lower Michigan and the Upper peninsula of Michigan.

Regional: Sugar Maple can be found from extreme Northern Georgia to Southern Manitoba Canada, also from Eastern Nebraska, to the New England states. (USDA 2011)



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Habitat:

Local: Grows in areas where the soil is rich in nutrients.

Regional: Grows in areas where the maximum summer temperature reaches 100 degrees Fahrenheit, and a winter temperature of negative 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Typical annual rainfall should be 20 to 50 inches, and 1 to 150 inches of snow. (USDA 2011)

Common local companions:

Red maple, black cherry, beech, and oaks.

Uses:

Maple syrup, timber because of the woods hardness and resistance to shock, household items such as a rolling pin, flooring, furniture, or any other wood wear. It can also be used as a great source of heating and for roadside decoration. (USDA 2011)

Why is it called that?

Acer is Latin for Maple and saccharum is Greek for sugar, referring to the abundance of sugar in the trees sap.(Ohio State University)