

Did you know?

The Yellow Poplar is not actually a poplar, as it is in the magnolia family.

Tree Details

Overview

- The Yellow Poplar is one of the largest hardwoods in North America.
- The Yellow Poplar is also known as the Tuliptree, Tulip Magnolia and Whitewood.
- Yellow Poplar ranges from Massachusetts to southern Michigan, south to northern Florida and Louisiana.
- The wood is used commercially for furniture, musical instruments, and interior finishes.

Seed Bearing Age
15-20 years

Growth Rate
Fast

Shape
Narrow to rounded

Seed Dispersal Dates
October-November

Yellow Poplar

Kingdom: *Plantae*

Class: *Magnoliopsida*

Order: *Magnoliales*

Family: *Magnoliaceae*

Genus: *Liriodendron*

Yellow Poplars in Agriculture

- The wood has high commercial value because of its versatility and as a substitute for increasingly scarce softwoods in furniture and framing construction.
- Yellow Poplar is also valued as a honey tree, a source of wildlife food, and a shade tree for large areas. A honey tree is a forest tree that harbors wild bees and honey.

History

- Thomas Jefferson described the Tulip Poplar as “The Juno of our Groves.”
- Pioneers used it for the upper logs on cabins and boards for every possible application from furniture and millwork to heavy timbers in covered bridges to construction lumber.

Sources:
<https://www.invasive.org/browse/subinfo.cfm?sub=2770>
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[https://naturalresources.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/iowa_trees/trees/yellow_poplar.html#:~:text=Yellow%20poplar%20\(Liriodendron%20tulipifera\)%20is,hence%20the%20common%20name%20tuliptree.&text=Height%3A%20Mature%20size%20varies%20with,50%20feet%20to%20100%20feet.](https://naturalresources.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/iowa_trees/trees/yellow_poplar.html#:~:text=Yellow%20poplar%20(Liriodendron%20tulipifera)%20is,hence%20the%20common%20name%20tuliptree.&text=Height%3A%20Mature%20size%20varies%20with,50%20feet%20to%20100%20feet.)
<https://www.monticello.org/house-gardens/in-bloom-at-monticello/tulip-poplar/>