

# AgBark



*A series of tree insights*

*Did you know?*

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

## 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.

## Tree Details

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:  
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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.)  
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