


silver maple [Aceraceae](#) *Acer saccharinum* L.  symbol: ACSA2 **vTree**

Leaf: Opposite, simple with 5 deeply palmate sinuses, lobe margins coarsely serrate, 2 1/2 to 5 inches long; light green above, pale, silvery white below.

Flower: Species is monoecious; greenish to reddish flowers appear in dense clusters in early spring long before leaves.

Fruit: Samara, largest of any native maple, divergent wings 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 inches long, germinate as soon as released, mature in late spring.

Twig: Similar to red maple but stouter and often more chestnut-brown in color, unpleasant odor when crushed; buds reddish brown with large scales, flower buds often in conspicuous dense clusters.

Bark: Light gray and smooth when young, when older breaks up into long thin strips, loose at ends. Similar to red maple but coarser.

Form: Can become quite a large tree reaching over 100 feet tall, trunk usually short, dividing into several subtrunks. Long slender branches sweep downward and then curve gracefully upwards.

Looks like: [red maple](#)



Additional Range Information:
Acer saccharinum is native to North America. Range may be expanded by planting. [See states reporting silver maple.](#)

External Links:
[USDAFS Silvics of North America](#)
[USDAFS Additional Silvics](#)
[Landowner Factsheet](#)
[USDA Plants Database](#)
[Horticulture](#)

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Photos and Text by: John Seiler, Edward Jensen, Alex Niemiera, and John Peterson.