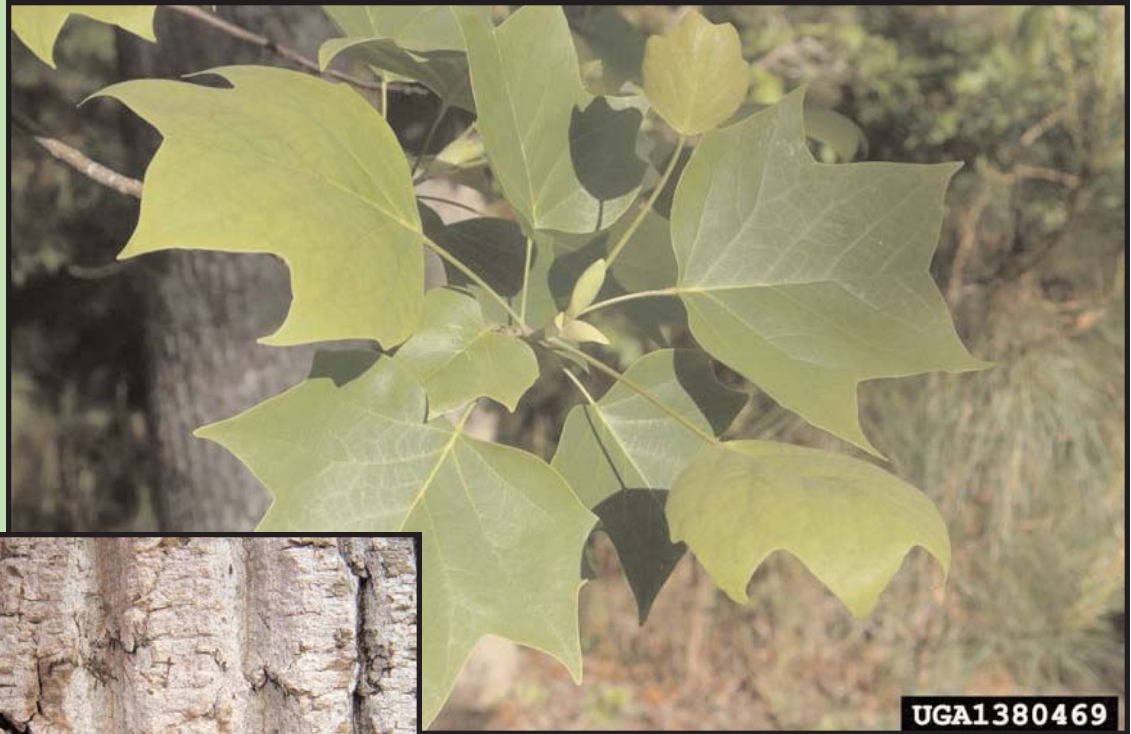


Yellow Poplar



GARDEN EARTH
NATURALIST
ECO-SERVICE CARDS

YELLOW POPLAR

Liriodendron tulipifera L.

FAMILY: Magnoliaceae

IDENTIFICATION CLUES



SIZE: large tree over 100 feet tall



LEAF: simple, smooth, dark green with four lobes; deciduous



FLOWER: large, showy yellow and orange tulip-like flowers in the spring



FRUIT: long and narrow light brown cone made up of numerous winged seeds (samaras)



BARK: Dark green and smooth on young trees; gray and ridged on older trunks



Where to Look

Yellow poplar is found growing on rich moist soils throughout the state of Georgia. It requires full sun and is very common along streams and rivers.

Importance to Humans

The wood of yellow poplar is used extensively by furniture makers. It is also useful as a shade tree for parks because it is a fast grower and has beautiful foliage and flowers.

Importance to Wildlife

Hummingbirds enjoy the nectar from the flowers of yellow poplar and the seeds are a favorite of cardinals, purple finch, quail and rabbits. Hollow trunks can provide homes for squirrels and raccoons.