

Shade Tree (over 30')
Deciduous
Native
Map #55

Freeman Maple
(*Acer x freemanii*)
Family: *Aceraceae*



Leaves: three to five lobed either more like the Red maple or the Silver but each lobe is sharply and irregularly toothed like silver maple.

Buds: opposite.

Stems: shiny, smooth with lighter dotted lenticels.

Bark: smooth and silvery becoming darker and corkier with age.

Flowers: typical for maple.

Fruits: two-winged 'helicopters' typical of maples.

Habit: upright oval with slightly pendulous branches. Stiffer in youth than old age.

Culture: Very adaptable. More tolerant of drought and high pH soils than red maple (*A. rubrum*). Full sun to light shade. It should be included in any list of street and parking lot trees. It represents a great improvement over silver maple.

Cultivars: 'Autumn Blaze' - This is an excellent selection for fall color, structure, cold hardiness and fast growth. The orange-red fall color persists for a long time. It is the trademarked name for the cultivar 'Jeffersred'. Dense oval-rounded with ascending branches ascending at a 45 degree angle when young and slightly wider with age; 'Armstrong' - very upright with light orange fall color; 'Marmo' - Introduced out of Lisle, Illinois by the Morton Arboretum, this selection has a broad columnar habit and good, early, mottled red fall color.

Miscellaneous: A naturally occurring hybrid between silver maple (*A. saccharinum*) and red maple (*A. rubrum*). Combines the adaptability and growth rate of silver maple with the bright red fall color of red maple.



'Autumn Blaze'



'Armstrong'



'Marmo'

Credits: Photos from: www.midwestlandscapeplants.org and various other .edu websites unless noted. Text from: "Manual of Woody Landscape Plants" by Michael Dirr; "Tree Identification Characteristics (abridged)" from the University of Illinois Extension; www.midwestlandscapeplants.org; and misc. other sources. This publication may not be sold except to cover the cost of reproduction when used as part of an educational program of the University of Wisconsin-Extension.