

KEY TO OHIO POPLARS IN THE WINTER CONDITION.

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Populus L. Trees with light soft wood; the larger branches usually with greenish-white, greenish, or brownish-gray bark. Twigs with a terminal bud; buds more or less resinous but not spicy-aromatic to the taste or smell; outer bud scales several, glabrous, pubescent, or tomentose; leaf scars alternate, not 2-ranked, more or less heart-shaped; bundle scars 3; stipular scars evident; self-pruning scars present and often very prominent; bark bitter; pith 5-angled, solid.

1. Twigs white or gray tomentose; buds ovoid-conical, short pointed. 2..
1. Twigs glabrous or pubescent, not tomentose. 4.
2. Buds glabrous, or slightly pubescent or tomentose, resinous, large; twigs robust, usually angular; leaf scars large. *P. heterophylla* L. Swamp Poplar
2. Buds tomentose or very pubescent, only slightly resinous, reddish-brown; twigs usually terete and slender; bark of larger branches greenish-gray or greenish-white. 3.
3. Buds very tomentose, small; twigs usually with abundant self-pruning scars which heal very perfectly, showing a dark ring around a central depression; bark often with black, diamond-shaped scars; crown large, spreading, round-topped. *P. alba* L. White Poplar.
3. Buds pubescent, not tomentose, rather large; bark of larger branches greenish-gray; trunk erect with an open, unsymmetrical straggling crown; branches distant, small and crooked. *P. grandidentata* Mx. Large-toothed Aspen.
4. Terminal and lateral buds rounded or only slightly angular, rather short pointed, brown and polished or reddish-brown and pubescent; twigs usually slender and terete. 5.
4. Terminal bud angular, large, rather long pointed; lateral buds long pointed or acuminate, sometimes angular. 6.
5. Buds glabrous or nearly so, brown and polished; bark of larger branches smooth, light green. *P. tremuloides* Mx. American Aspen
5. Buds pubescent and reddish-brown; bark of larger branches smooth, greenish-gray. *P. grandidentata* Mx.
6. Tree spire-like, the branches nearly vertical; lateral buds acuminate, curved, usually spreading. *P. dilatata* Ait. Lombardy Poplar.
6. Tree dome-shaped, the branches spreading. 7.
7. Buds gummy resinous, reddish-brown and large; twigs often more or less pubescent, usually reddish, mostly terete. *P. balsamifera* L. (Inc. var. *candicans*). Balsam Poplar
7. Buds resinous but dry, greenish or yellowish-gray; lateral buds acuminate, and usually curved and spreading; twigs glabrous, usually brownish-gray, often angled. *P. deltoides* Marsh. Cottonwood.