

Dr. *Nancy* BECKER

EARS, NOSE & THROAT ☉ ALLERGY THERAPY ☉ FACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY

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Box Elder

Acer Negundo

Family: Aceraceae
Genus: Acer
Species: Negundo

Common Names:

Box Elder
Cutleaved Maple
Ashleaved Maple
Water Ash

Pollen Grains:

Rounded triangular to spheroidal; oblatly flattened when fully expanded. Germ pores absent.

Exine very thin without striate.

Pollinating Period:

April

Distribution:

Throughout most of the US

Allergic Importance:

Important where abundant

The Box Elder is a spreading, medium sized tree to 70' tall. The leaves are divided into three leaflets or occasionally five or seven. Trees flower just before the leaves appear. Male flowers occur as clusters or stamens, on long, drooping pedicels; the female flowers as drooping racemes of long pedicled pistils. The Box Elder is our only Maple which is entirely wind pollinated. This accounts for its greater importance in the group.

Silver Maple

Acer Saccharinum

Aceraceae
Acer
Saccharinum

Silver maple
Soft Maple
White Maple
Swamp Maple
River Maple

Exine thicker and inconsistently striate.

February and March

Native East of the Rocky Mtns.; widely cultivated throughout the US

Of secondary importance except where very abundant

The Silver or Soft Maple is an attractive tree growing to 100' tall. Planted throughout the country as a street and yard tree. Several horticultural varieties are found in cultivation. Flowering occurs some weeks before the leaves. The flowers are rudimentary and closely grouped in fascicle. Male and female flowers occur in different clusters on the same or different trees. The Silver Maple, Red Maple, and Sugar Maple are considered to be partially insect pollinated and partially wind pollinated.