

Japanese Maple (*Acer palmatum*)

Also called: Takao maple

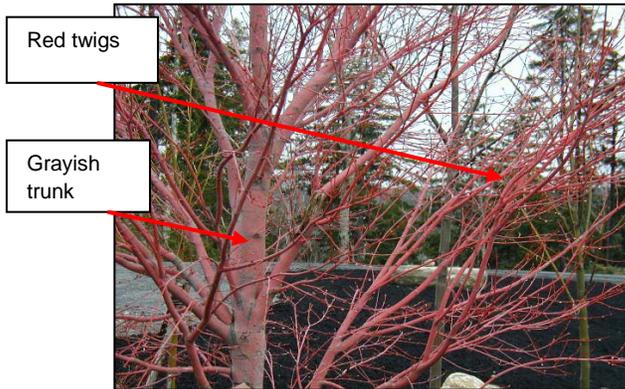
Family name: Maple (Aceraceae)

Native range: Japan, China, Korea

NJ Status: Emerging Stage 2 – Uncommon (may be regionally common or abundant). It is *moderately threatening* to natural communities. All detected occurrences should be eradicated.

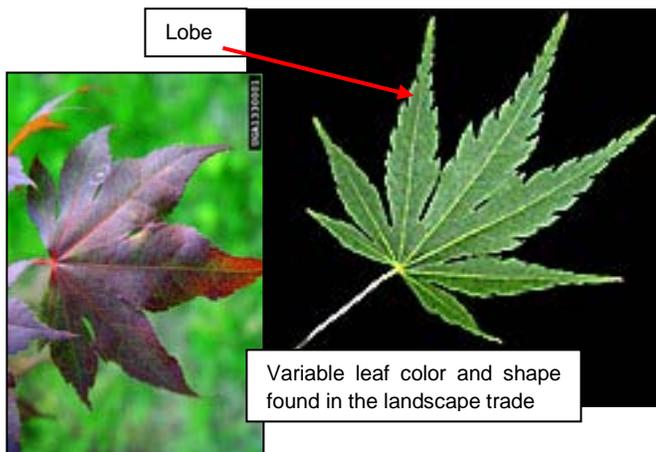
General description:

- Small deciduous tree, 10'-25' tall
- Several landscape varieties
- Multiple trunks joining close to the ground
- Twigs have green or red tinge and appear polished
- Mature bark is gray and smooth



Leaves:

- Opposite, 2"-3" across
- 5-9 sharply pointed lobes—each lobe is toothed
- Color ranges from green to purple in the summer; orange, yellow or red in the fall
- Color develops late
- Leaves are persistent
- Fuzzy fringe on buds



Flowers:

- Small, red or purple clusters
- Blooms in May-June



Fruit:

- Samaras (winged seeds). 0.5"-0.75" long
- Often have a reddish tinge, can also be green
- Wings at a 90 degree angle



Samaras are numerous and smaller than most other maples.

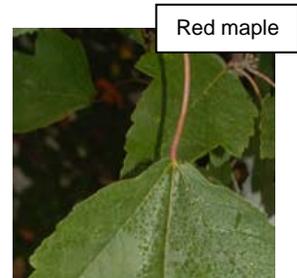
Habitat:

- Forest, edge, landscape
- Well drained soil

Commercial Availability: Yes

Look-alikes:

NOTE: All maples have samaras of various size, color and wing shape. For additional lookalikes see Fact Sheets for: **Sycamore maple** (*A. pseudoplatanus*) and **Amur maple** (*A. ginnala*).



Red maple (*Acer rubrum*)

- Native tree, to 90' tall
- Red twigs, red fall color
- Usually only 3 lobes on leaves, not as pointed

Silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*)

- Native tree
- Yellow flowers, large green samaras
- Leaves have a silvery underside

