

# Norway Maple

## Identification

Norway maples have simple, green, and opposite leaves. Leaves of Norway maples usually are broader than they are high, about four to seven inches wide, with five prominent lobes. The bark of a Norway maple is grayish black and furrowed. This species tends to leaf out earlier in the spring than other maples and forms a broad-rounded crown. Yellow or greenish-yellow flowers are approximately 8 mm in diameter and are found in clusters that are present from April to May. During the summer, fruits mature into helicopter-like blades with wide-spreading wings. In the fall, leaves usually turn a pale yellow. One of the easiest ways to differentiate Norway maple from sugar maple is to cut the petiole (or leaf stalk) or vein and if a milky substance oozes out, it is a Norway maple. Also, bud tips of Norway maples are more blunt, whereas sugar maples are pointy and sharp.



The prominent five-lobed leaf of the Norway maple. Photo: *John M. Randall, The Nature Conservancy, Bugwood.org*



The wide-spreading wings of the Norway maple fruit. Photo: *Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org*



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Flower clusters of Norway maple. *Photo: Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org*



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Broad and blunt bud of a Norway Maple. *Photo: Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org*