

Trees are dioecious. Male and female flowers are produced in separate round heads. The male flowers are green and the female flowers are red. The petals and sepals are greatly reduced; the stamens and pistils are very prominent. The female inflorescence is pictured here.



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The fruit is a globose head of tightly packed elongated achenes.



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*Platanus occidentalis*

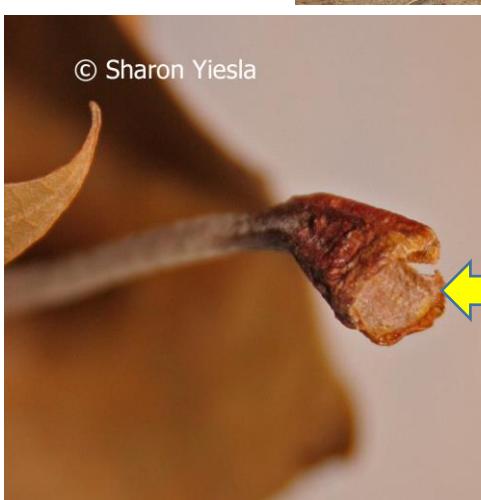
Sycamore (page 1 of 2)

Buds are cone-shaped and ridged. They are covered by the petiole base during the season, so the leaf scar encircles the bud.

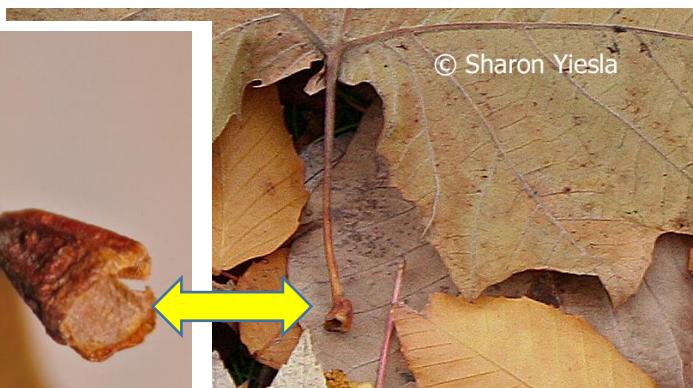


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The alternate leaves are large (8 to 10 inches wide), with 3 to 5 lobes and a coarsely toothed margin. The base of the petiole is cone shaped (arrow) since it covers the bud during the growing season.



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Sycamore generally has a broad spreading form, but can be more narrow when trees grow close together; mature height can be up to 100 feet.



Fall color is russet to brown.



Bark on the lower trunk is often very flaky.



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