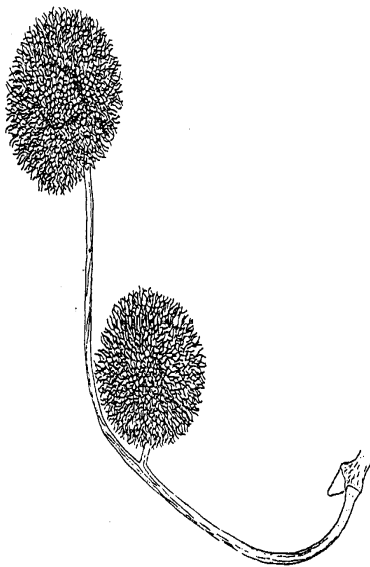
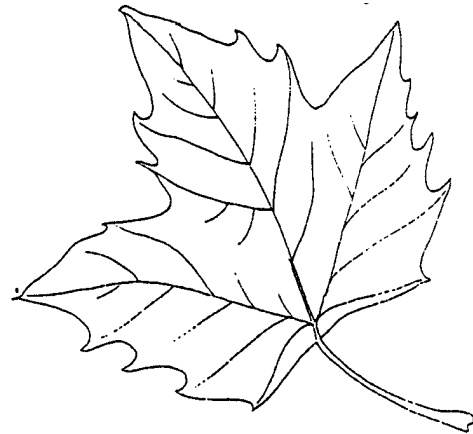




London Plane Tree

London plane (*Platanus x acerifolia*) is a hybrid sycamore resulting from crosses of American sycamore and oriental sycamore. London plane is an important landscape tree because of its resistance to diseases and ability to grow rapidly in urban soils.

London plane tree is easily transplanted, although care should be taken to ensure that trees are not planted too deeply. London plane prefers deep, rich, moist soils that are well drained. However, this species is able to withstand most soil conditions, including high pH and compaction.



London plane tree is attacked by a number of pests. The major foliage disease of sycamores is anthracnose, although several cultivars of London plane have resistance. Powdery mildew is also an important foliage disease, usually affecting the appearance of trees in late summer. London plane is attacked by several cankers, with canker stain a major problem in many areas. Bacterial leaf scorch is a serious disease which causes the trees to slowly decline and die.

Several insects are problems on London planes. The most common insect pest is sycamore lacebug, which has up to five generations per year. On the west coast, sycamore scale is a widespread pest of London plane. A borer commonly damaging London plane is the American plum borer, a caterpillar usually feeding around bark wounds.

London plane trees should be fertilized on a regular basis. They are often planted in areas with poor soil or limited rooting space, limiting the availability of nutrients. For these same reasons, irrigation and mulching are often important for reducing stress during dry periods.

Recommended Monitoring for London Plane

Timing	Treatment
Winter	Inspect for pest activity. Corrective prune crowns; remove dead, dying, and diseased branches.
Late Winter	Apply horticultural spray oil for overwintering pests. Inspect for borers, scale, aphids and other pests.
Early Spring	Inspect for lacebugs and other pests. Apply fungicide treatments as necessary to prevent anthracnose.
Mid Spring sprays necessary	Inspect for lacebugs and other pests. Apply preventive borer for American plum borer. Apply fungicide treatments as to prevent anthracnose.
Late Spring	Inspect for scales, lacebugs, mites and other pests. Apply fungicide as necessary to prevent anthracnose.
Early Summer	Inspect for scales, lacebugs and other pests. Inspect irrigation and soil moisture levels to reduce moisture stress.
Mid Summer	Inspect for scales, lacebugs and other pests. Apply fungicide as needed for powdery mildew.
Late Summer	Inspect for scales, lacebugs and other pests. Apply fungicide as needed for powdery mildew.
Early Fall	Inspect for scales, lacebugs and other pests. Inspect root collar and excavate as needed.
Late Fall	Inspect for scales, lacebugs and other pests. Fertilize tree and modify soil as indicated by soil samples. Mulch to depth of 4 inches.