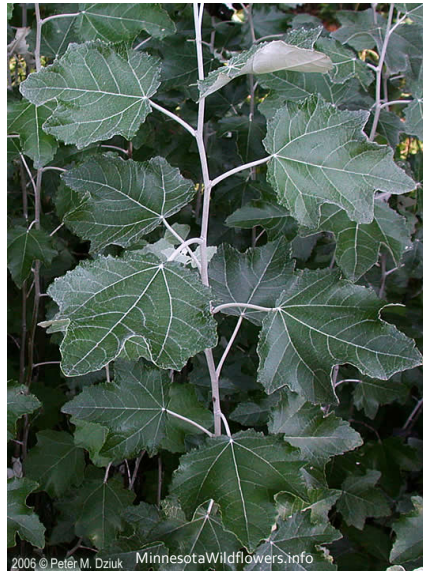


White poplar look alike

White poplar (*Populus alba*) may be confused with other *Populus* species. Its lobed leaves may cause it to be confused with some maples (*Acer* species). *Populus* species have alternate branching while *Acer* species have opposite branching.



White poplar's younger bark is smooth and grayish, similar to other poplar species. **Leaf shape is variable** from egg-shaped to lobed with 3-5 lobes. **Leaves are coarsely toothed**. The upper surface of leaves is dark green and shiny; the **lower surface is white from dense woolly hairs**.



Big-tooth aspen (*Populus grandidentata*, above) has coarsely-toothed leaves that are egg to oval shaped and **never lobed**. They have **woolly hairs on both leaf surfaces when emerging** but **shed most of the hairs** at maturity.

Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*, not pictured) also has coarsely-toothed leaves, but the **leaves are smooth**.