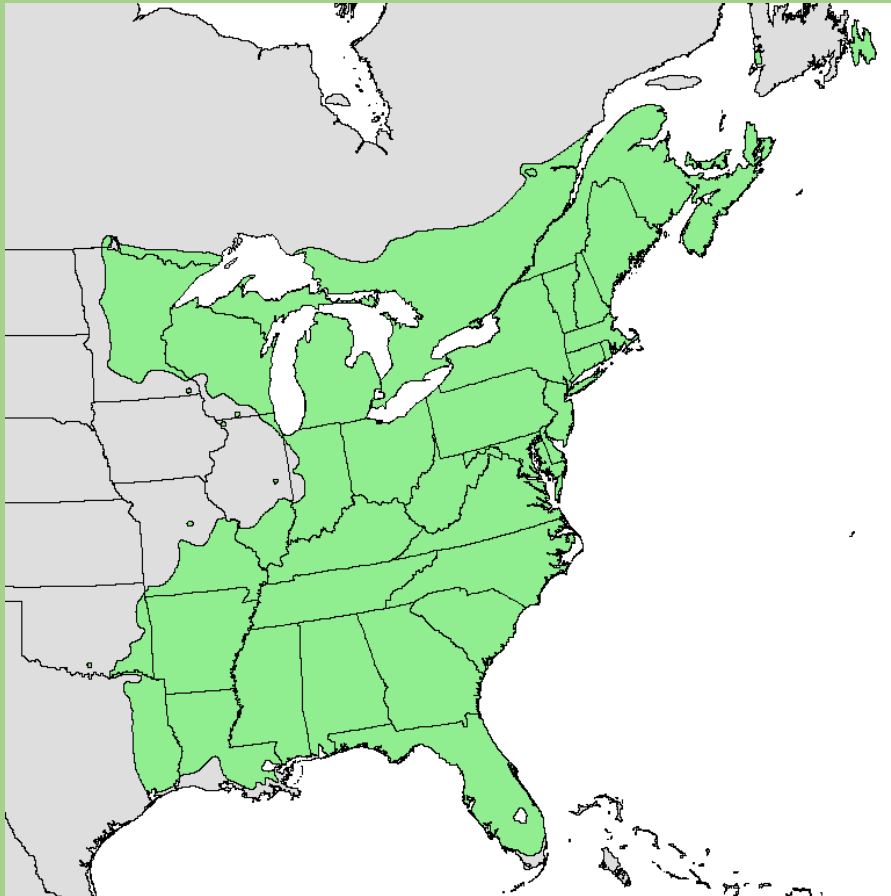


Red Maple

Acer rubrum



The red maple is a medium to large deciduous hardwood native to the eastern half of the US and southeastern Canada. The tree gets its name from the abundance of red seen in its coloration, including the fall leaves, spring flowers, falling fruits and even the leaf stalks. It can grow upwards of 90 feet at maturity and have a diameter of 4 feet. The leaves normally grow three distinct lobes, are teathed along the edges, and have opposite arrangement. The flowers grow in clusters in early spring and the samaras—winged seeds—fall soon after. The bark, like other maples, will start smooth and gray when young, and as it ages will darken and develop furrows. While not popular commercially for timber, it is nonetheless used for landscaping, while also a valued food source and home for many species, including birds, insects, and smaller mammals.