

BOXELDER

Acer negundo

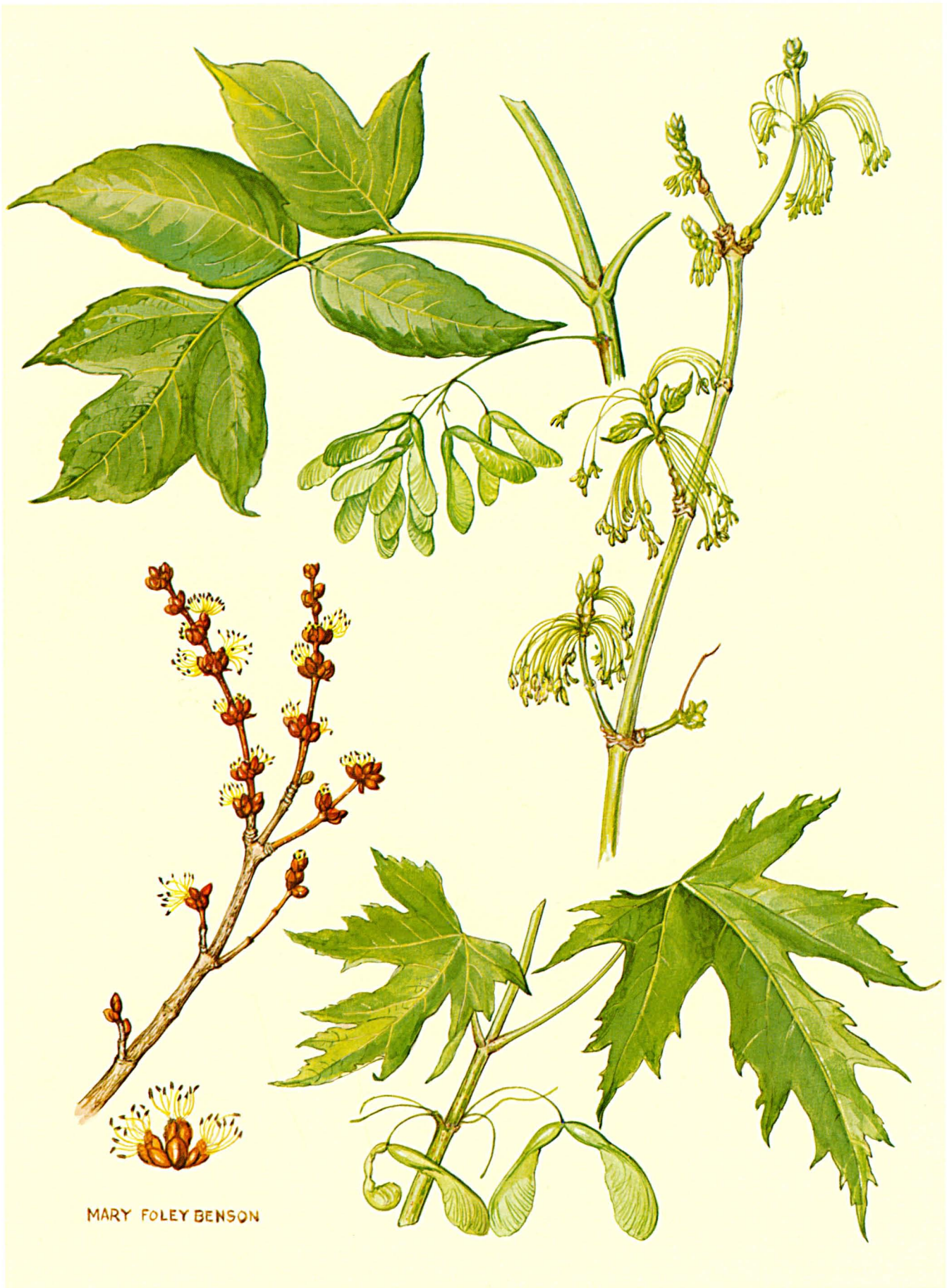
SILVER MAPLE

Acer saccharinum

FAMILY:	Aceraceae	
GENUS:	Acer	
SPECIES:	negundo	saccharinum
COMMON NAMES:	Boxelder Cutleaved Maple Ashleaved Maple Water Ash	Silver Maple Soft Maple White Maple Swamp Maple River Maple
POLLEN GRAINS:	Rounded triangular to spheroidal; oblatly flattened when fully expanded. Germ pores absent.	
	Exine very thin without striae.	Exine thicker and inconsistantly striate.
POLLINATING PERIOD:	April	February and March
DISTRIBUTION:	Throughout most of the United States.	Native east of the Rocky Mts. Widely cultivated throughout the U.S.
ALLERGIC IMPORTANCE:	Important where abundant.	Of secondary importance except where very abundant.

The boxelder is a spreading, medium sized tree, to 70 feet tall. The leaves are divided into three leaflets, or occasionally five or seven. The trees flower just before the leaves appear. The male flowers occur as clusters of stamens on long drooping pedicels; the female flowers as drooping racemes of long pediceled pistils. The boxelder is our only maple which is entirely wind pollinated. This accounts for its greater importance in the group.

*The silver or soft maple is a handsome tree growing to 100 feet tall. It is much planted throughout the country as a street and yard tree. Several horticultural varieties are found in cultivation. Flowering occurs some weeks before the leaves. The flowers are rudimentary and closely grouped in fascicles. Male and female flowers occur in different clusters on the same or different trees. The silver maple, as is also the red maple (*A. rubrum*) and sugar maple (*A. saccharum*) is considered to be partially insect pollinated and partially wind pollinated.*



MARY FOLEY BENSON

Acer negundo
(Boxelder) Top Illustration

Acer saccharinum
(Silver Maple) Bottom Illustration