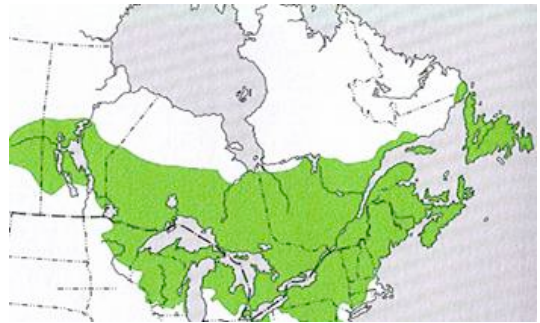


Mountain Maple *Acer spicatum*

A Short, crooked trunk is divided into a few slender branches to form an uneven crown. The 3-lobed leaves are single toothed. The keys are indented on one side.

Habitat

The Mountain Maple grows in forests from Saskatchewan to Eastern Canada and the north eastern part of the United States. It forms part of the forest under story growing on well drained moist soil in ravines, along hillsides and streams. This tree is shade tolerant, seldom thriving in the open. It also grows on recently cut-over forest land forming thickets.



Size and Form



The Mountain Maple grows as large shrubs up to 5 m high and 15 cm in diameter. The trunk is short and crooked. Ascending upwards from the trunk are a few rather straight limbs that form a around but even crown. The root system is very shallow and sometimes partially exposed.

Leaves

The leaves measure up to 12 cm and are a bit longer than their width. They extend from slender reddish stalks which are usually longer than the leaf itself. There are 3 to 5 lobes with a triangular central lobe separated from the lateral lobes by notches. The upper surface is a yellowish green while underneath it is white and downy. Irregular teeth on the edge of the leaf curve outwards. The leaves change to yellow, red, or brown in autumn.

