Amur Maple
*Acer ginnala*
Family: Aceraceae

**Hardiness Zone:** 3 – 8, but does better further north

**Native Habitat:** Amur Maple was introduced in 1860 and is native to northern and central China as well as Manchuria and Japan.

**Growth Habit/Rate:** This multi-stemmed maple is variable in shape and is often found as a large shrub, but can also be a small tree. Through pruning, it can be shaped to suit specific needs.

Amur Maple can grow up to 25 feet, but typically grows to 15 - 18 feet. Multi-stemmed specimens can grow as wide as they are tall.

**Leaves:** Often one of the first trees to leaf out in spring, Amur Maple has dark shiny green leaves with a light green underside. Leaves are variable in shape and have three lobes with the middle lobe usually longer than the side two. The doubly serrate leaves are 1 ½ – 3 inches long.

Amur Maple turns color early in fall and foliage does not remain on the plant for long. Leaves often turn a showy red but yellows can also be seen. There is a lot of variety in fall coloration, and it isn’t consistent, but color is best when it’s planted in full sun.

**Buds:** Reddish-brown, or lighter, buds are small (1/8 inch long) and waxy

**Flowers:** Borne in small (1 – 1 ½ inch diameter) clusters, yellowish white flowers appear in April and May at about the same time as the leaves. Amur Maple is one of the only maples with fragrant flowers.

**Twigs:** Stems are gray-brown and thin with a waxy coating

**Bark:** Grayish-brown with darker vertical groves as it ages. Young bark is gray and smooth.

**Fruit:** Reddish samaras are .75 – 1 inch long with wings that are almost parallel. Fruit remains on the tree through the winter.

**Pests & Diseases:** Generally free of pest and disease problems, but is susceptible to verticillium wilt.

**Uses:** Can be used for hedges or screening, in group plantings, or as a small specimen. Also does well planted in a container as a patio plant.

**Sources:**


*Acer ginnala* Fact Sheet. Virginia Tech, Department of Forestry, College of Natural Resources.