

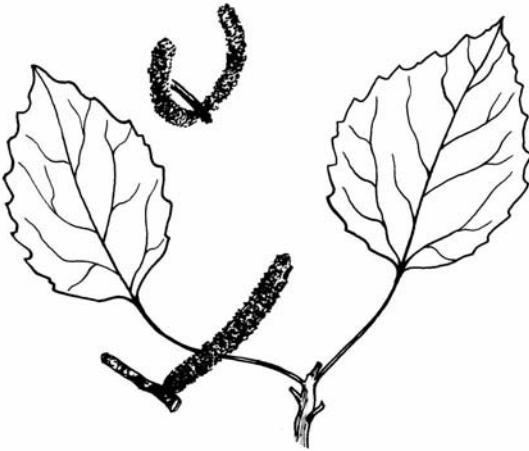
BIGTOOTH ASPEN

Populus grandidentata Michx.

Bigtooth aspen, poplar, or popple occurs statewide and commonly grows with quaking aspen. It is a rapid grower in various soils and in different situations. It grows best in a rich, sandy and fairly moist soil. It is more shade tolerant and therefore more competitive than quaking aspen and grows with other species in either scattered or in small groves. It attains a height of 60 - 80 feet and a diameter of 10 - 20 inches.

The **bark** is smooth, olive to gray-green in color. At the base of old trees, it is dark and divided into broad, irregular, flat ridges.

The **leaves** are alternate, 3 - 4 inches long, broadly egg-shaped in outline, and have a dark green upper surface. When first emerging in spring, they are a distinctive silvery green. The edges are coarsely and irregularly toothed. The petiole, or leaf stalk, is flat.



The **flowers** are in catkins, and appear before the leaves.

The **fruit** ripens in May about the time the leaves begin to come out. The seeds are small and light and are carried long distances by the wind. The **buds** are dull gray, slightly hairy, and not sticky.

The **wood** is like that of the quaking aspen and is used for the same purposes.