

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISION  
Washington, D. C.

and

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
Columbia, Missouri

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF 'FLAME' AMUR MAPLE

The Ecological Sciences and Technology Division of the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and the Elsberry, Missouri, Plant Materials Center (SCS) announce the release of 'Flame' Amur maple, Acer ginnala Maxim.

Amur maple was introduced into the United States from Eastern Asia in about 1860. The accession **MI-891**, which resulted in the release of the cultivar 'Flame', was received from the Rochester, New York, Bureau of Parks in 1934. Amur maple is an attractive dense shrub to small tree that grows to a height of 15 to 20 feet. It is multi-stemmed with branches at or near ground level, but may be pruned to a single stem where desired for landscaping. The cultivar 'Flame' attains a height of about 17 feet and a width of 14 feet in about 12 years at Elsberry. It has good longevity with plants surviving for about 42 years at Elsberry. The typical double-winged fruits turn bright red in summer while the leaves are still green. The name 'Flame' was selected for the fiery red autumn leaf color.

Amur maple is extremely winter-hardy and has been widely planted in the northern states and Canada. It has been planted as far south as Oklahoma. The cultivar 'Flame' has been widely tested in the midwestern United States as far north as central Michigan. Establishment and performance have been excellent. Amur maple is best adapted to well-drained, fertile soils. 'Flame' is recommended for use in shelterbelts, landscaping, wildlife cover and nesting, and rural roadside beautification plantings.

'Flame' Amur maple is a prolific seed producer. It is released as an open-pollinated seed propagated cultivar. It exhibits excellent

- uniformity in size, form, and color from seed. Propagation by commercial nurseries will be from open-pollinated seed. Breeder seed is maintained by the Plant Materials Center, Elsberry, Missouri. Seed and plants to establish seed orchards of 'Flame' Amur maple are available from the Elsberry, Missouri, Plant Materials Center.

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