

# Allergen Information

## Trees 2



Your Veterinary Surgeon will tick which allergens your animal has tested positive to.





## Poplar (*Populus sp.*)



*Populus* is a Genus of between 25–35 species of deciduous flowering plants in the Family *Salicaceae*, native to most of the Northern Hemisphere. English names variously applied to different species include poplar, aspen, and cottonwood. The Genus has a large genetic diversity, and can grow from anywhere between 15–50 m tall, with trunks of up to 2.5 m diameter. The bark is smooth, white to greenish or dark grey. The shoots are stout, with (unlike in the related willows) the terminal bud present. The leaves are spirally arranged, and vary in shape from triangular to circular. The flowers are mostly dioecious (rarely monoecious) and appear in early spring before the leaves. They are borne in long, drooping, sessile or pedunculate catkins produced from buds formed in the axilia of the leaves of the previous year. The flowers are each seated in a cup-shaped disk which is borne on the base of a scale which is itself attached to the rachis of the catkin. Pollination is by wind, with the female catkins lengthening considerably between pollination and maturity.



## Pine (*Pinus echinata*)



Pines are coniferous trees in the Genus *Pinus*, in the Family *Pinaceae*.

They make up the monotypic subfamily *Pinoideae*. There are about 115 species of pine, although different authorities accept between 105 and 125 species.

Pines are ever green and resinous trees (rarely shrubs) growing to 3–80 m tall, with the majority of species reaching between 15-45 m tall. The male pine cones are small, typically 1-5 cm long, and only present for a short period (usually in spring, though autumn in a few pines), falling as soon as they have shed their pollen. Pines are wind-pollinated.

## Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)

*Fraxinus* (common name Ash) is a Genus of usually medium to large trees, mostly deciduous though a few subtropical species are ever green. The seeds, popularly known as keys or helicopter seeds, are a type of fruit known as a samara. The Genus *Fraxinus* contains 45-65 species. The tree's common English name

goes back to the Old English *æsc*, a word also routinely used in Old English documents to refer to spears made of ash wood.



## Maple (*Acer rubrum*)

*Acer* is a Genus of trees or shrubs commonly known as Maple. Maples are variously classified in a Family *Aceraceae*, or (together with the

*Hippocastanaceae*) included in the Family *Sapindaceae*. The flowers are regular, pentamerous, and borne in racemes, corymbs, or umbels. Maples flower in late winter or early spring. Maple flowers are green, yellow, orange or red. Though individually small, the effect of an entire tree in flower can be striking in several species.

Some maples are an early spring source of pollen and nectar for bees.





## Sycamore



*Platanus* is a small Genus of trees native to the Northern Hemisphere. They are the sole members of the Family *Platanaceae*. They are all large trees to 30–50 m tall, deciduous (except for *P. kerrii*), and are mostly found in riparian or other wetland habitats in the wild, though proving drought tolerant in cultivation away from streams. The hybrid London Plane has proved particularly tolerant of urban conditions. They are known as planes in Europe, and as sycamores in North America. Plane trees are wind-pollinated. Male balls fall off the branch after shedding their pollen. The female flowers, on the other hand, remain attached to the branch firmly.



## Elm

Elms are deciduous and semi-deciduous trees comprising the Genus *Ulmus*, Family *Ulmaceae*. Elm leaves are alternate, with simple, single- or, most commonly, doubly-serrate margins, usually asymmetric at the base and acuminate at the apex. The genus is hermaphroditic, having perfect flowers which, being wind-pollinated, are apetalous. The fruit is a round wind-dispersed samara.



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