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The Sugar Maple leaf has five lobes pointing outward with a few narrow long pointed teeth. The leaves grow opposite each other on the stem and have five main veins from the base. They turn crimson, orange and yellow in autumn. Between lobes the leaf is rounded.

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Acer saccharum

Sugar Maple

Rock Maple, Hard Maple

Acer saccharum

Sugar Maple

Rock Maple, Hard Maple

Sometimes called "noses" or "helicopters", the seeds are a pair of keys each over an inch long. Unlike the Red Maple, the seeds of the Sugar Maple mature in autumn.

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The bark of the Sugar Maple is gray to brown forming rough, furrowed, scaly ridges. The twigs are smooth and reddish brown, and the winter buds are sharply pointed. The bark of the Red Maple is more consistently gray

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Acer saccharum

Sugar Maple

Rock Maple, Hard Maple

Acer saccharum

Sugar Maple

Rock Maple, Hard Maple

The Sugar Maple is the source of maple syrup. In early spring when the sun in warm on the bark the trunk can be tapped for the sugar sap. By expansion under sunlight and contraction during the cold nights, the tree actually pumps the sap into the collecting bucket.

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