

# Mountain maple

(*Acer spicatum*)



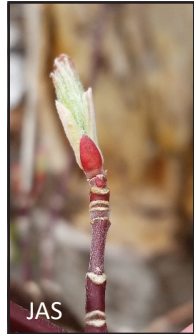
## Dormant bud

The bud starts with two red bracts and two green/brown bracts (arrow) that swell. These open to reveal the leaf. *You do not record this phase.*



## Breaking leaf bud

One or more breaking leaf buds are visible (the green leaf tip is visible). This is before the first leaf has unfolded to expose the leaf base. Note the key is seeing the bud open.



**Leaves** - One or more live, unfolded leaves (the entire length has emerged from a bud, so that the leaf stalk or leaf base is visible). Do not include fully dried or dead leaves. *Select even when increasing leaf size & colored leaves.*



## Increasing leaf size

Leaves have not yet reached full size (3-5" long). Do not include new leaves that continue to emerge throughout the growing season.

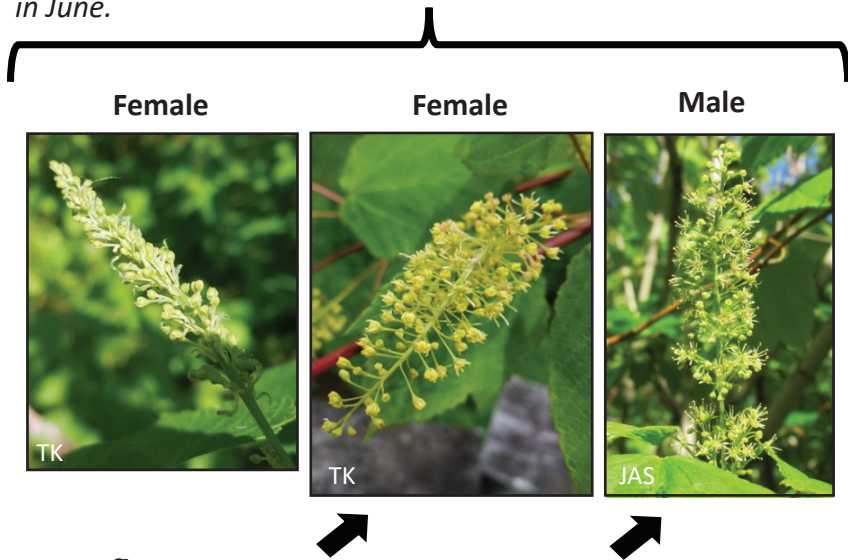


## Colored leaves

One or more leaves show yellow or brown due to seasonal changes, drought or other stresses. Do not include small spots of color, leaf damage, broken branches or fully dried/dead leaves.



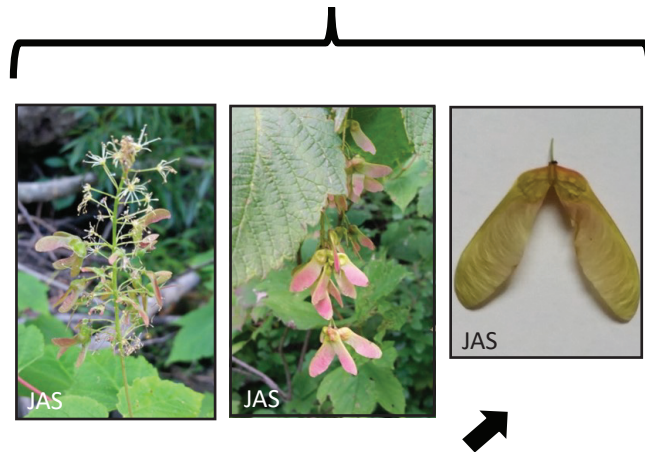
**Flowers** - One or more open or unopened flowers or buds are visible. Include buds that are swelling or expanding. Do not include wilted or dried flowers. *Mountain maple have separate male and female flowers on the same plant and typically bloom in June.*



### Open flowers

One or more open, fresh flowers are visible with reproductive parts (male stamens or female pistils) visible. Do not include wilted or dried flowers. In mountain maple, flowers are open when they are spreading. Male and female flowers look relatively similar and both emerge from the leaves after leaves have expanded.

**Fruit** - One or more fruits are visible on the plant. In mountain maple the fruit has two winged seeds that form a V-shape. They are initially green or reddish. *Select even when the fruit is not ripe.*



### Ripe fruit

One or more ripe fruits are visible on the plant. *In mountain maple, the fruit is ripe when it is tan/brown and readily drops when touched.*