

# Populus alba

## COMMON NAME

white poplar

## FAMILY

Salicaceae

## AUTHORITY

Populus alba L.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

POPALB

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## HABITAT

Terrestrial.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Tree to approx. 25m high, usu. spreading, suckering profusely. Bark grey, rather smooth to shallowly fissured. Shoots white-tomentose, terete. Buds white, with appressed tomentum, not viscid. Young leaves not aromatic. Petiole 1.5~5cm long, white-tomentose, slightly compressed. Lamina on vegetative shoots 3~10 x 2~9.5cm, deltoid, with 3~5 lobulate or toothed primary lobes; lamina on adult shoots smaller, ovate, ovate-oblong or suborbicular, lobed or strongly toothed, always white, loosely tomentose below and at first above, later glabrous or nearly so on upper surface, green and shining; margin lacking translucent band; base truncate, rounded or subcordate, glandless; apex obtuse or rounded. Catkins female, pendent, 2~8cm long at antithesis. Rachis villous. Bracts 3~3.5mm long, membranous, shining, brown in upper part, incised to shallowly toothed, prominently long-ciliate. Cup-shaped disc .5~.8mm deep, glabrous or somewhat villous; margin slightly sinuate. Ovary glabrous; stigmas slender, whitish. Capsule containing dense, white cotton-like hairs, esp. towards base. (-Webb et. al., 1988)

## SIMILAR TAXA

White undersides of leaves (Thompson & Reeves 1994).

## FLOWERING

September

## LIFE CYCLE

Perennial.

## YEAR NATURALISED

1904

## ORIGIN

Eurasia. Africa

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Agricultural



Populus alba. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Populus alba. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

**MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/populus-alba/>