

Triadica sebifera

Tallow tree

TRSE6



Cheryl McCormick-Rote, University of Florida, www.forestryimages.org



Voucher specimen required in all NRS states.

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Form: Deciduous tree to 18 m.

Leaves: Alternately whorled, distinctly heart-shaped with rounded wide-angled base and a short or long attenuate tip. Blades 5-8 cm long and 4-6 cm wide. Hairless, lime-green petioles 2.5-8 cm.

Flowers/fruit: Slender, drooping spikes to 20 cm long of tiny flowers, yellowish-green sepals, but no petals. Fruit is small terminal clusters of 3-lobed capsules (occasionally 4-5 lobed), 1.2-2 cm across. Dark green in summer becoming black and splitting to reveal 3 wax coated seeds resembling popcorn.

Habitat: Stream banks, riverbanks and wet areas like ditches as well as upland sites. Thrives in freshwater and saline soils. Also shade tolerant, flood tolerant and allelopathic.

Similar species: Cottonwoods, *Populus* spp., which have wavy margined leaves and flaking bark.

Notes _____

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