

## Chinese or 'Yunnan' Poplar

### Main Points

- Possum resistant
- Attractive shiny leaves
- Heavy branching, brittle branchlets can break in strong winds
- Disease resistant
- Smooth bark when young

### Description

On sheltered sites 'Yunnanensis' develops into a tall, broad-crowned, heavily branched tree, 25- 30m high. Branches are relatively brittle and breakage is common on very windy sites. Growth rate is not as fast as the latest available hybrids, but 'Yunnanensis' has attractive dark green glossy leaves which make it a popular specimen tree. The bark turns from smooth to flaky at 4-5 years, then rough after 8-10 years. Leaves do not fall until 3-4 weeks later than most poplars.

### Site tolerances

Although successfully grown on a wide range of sites throughout New Zealand, the best results have been on fertile, moist soils. 'Yunnanensis' is not as frost hardy as some other poplars but has been observed to survive drought as a young tree better than some other poplars and willows of the same age.

### Uses

- Soil conservation - suitable for general soil conservation planting
- Amenity - valued as a specimen or shade tree.

### Establishment

Grows well from poles or cuttings. However, cuttings should have 1-2 dormant buds and require good moisture and weed control during the first season.

### Management

Trees will benefit if pruned to one main leader after 2-3 year's growth.

### Pests and diseases

Growth is not affected by rust diseases and the tree is possum resistant.



For further information:

For information on planting poplars or willows, ask us for other Environment Topics in this series or contact Land Management Officers at Hawke's Bay Regional Council for advice.

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