

Quaking Aspen

Populus tremuloides

Distribution: Quaking Aspen is found throughout the Western United States. In Washington, it can be found throughout the East side of the State where adequate moisture is present.

Growth: Quaking Aspen can reach as tall as 80' where ample moisture and suitable exposure is available. In sites with only marginal moisture, the trees may only reach 20' to 30'.

Adaptability: Quaking Aspen prefers planting sites that are moist most of the year but will tolerate somewhat drier soils at the cost of reduced vigor and growth potential. Supplemental irrigation helps in marginally dry sites.

Comments: Aspen is a *dual use species*. Its ornamental attributes are quite obvious and change through the seasons. In spring, the leaves first appear striking chartreuse. As summer approaches, the mature leaves take on a bluish-green color and audibly tremble with the slightest breeze. The leaves turn a bright yellowish gold in the fall. After the leaves fall in winter, the trees show off their bright white bark. Aspen is also a very useful conservation species.

