



## 25. Balsam Poplar F

**TRAITS:** Medium-sized deciduous tree; gray bark with deep furrows.

**HABITAT:** Well-drained soils in boreal forest.

**FOODS:** Makes its own by photosynthesis.

**EATEN BY:** Aphids, gall-making aphids, moth larvae, sawflies, true bugs, leafhoppers, moose, snowshoe hares, pine grosbeaks.

**"GEE WHIZ":** Balsam poplar wood is used chiefly for boxes, crates, and pulpwood.



## 26. Paper Birch F

**TRAITS:** Small to medium-sized deciduous tree; bark is white, smooth, and separates into papery strips.

**HABITAT:** Boreal forests, all slopes; grows best in areas without permafrost.

**FOODS:** Makes its own by photosynthesis.

**EATEN BY:** Moth larvae, aphids, pine grosbeaks, redpolls, ruffed grouse, moose, hares.

**"GEE WHIZ":** Near cities and villages in interior Alaska, paper birch has been used primarily as fireplace wood.



## 27. Alder F

**TRAITS:** Deciduous tree or shrub; smooth gray bark with horizontal lines.

**HABITAT:** Varies by species; common in early successional stages and in mature forests.

**FOODS:** Makes its own by photosynthesis.

**EATEN BY:** Moth larvae, gall-making aphids, true bugs, leafhoppers, redpolls.

**"GEE WHIZ":** Certain bacteria live in the roots of the alder helping the plant obtain nitrogen from the soil in exchange for sugars made by the plant.