## Acer rubrum 'Brandywine'



The U.S. National Arboretum is pleased to present *Acer rubrum* 'Brandywine', a red maple with long lasting, eye-catching fall color. Autumn coloration begins in mid-fall and lasts up to 14 days or more, gradually turning from red to a brilliant red-purple. A male selection, 'Brandywine' can be used in the landscape without fear of generating undesirable weedy seedlings. 'Brandywine' is oval in shape and exhibits significant tolerance to leafhopper, one of the major pests of landscape red maples.







**U.S. National Arboretum Plant Introduction** Floral and Nursery Plants Research Unit





## 'Brandywine' red maple

**Botanical name:** Acer rubrum L. 'Brandywine'

(NA 59907; PI 583792)

Family: Sapindaceae (Aceraceae)

**Hardiness:** USDA Zones 4–8

**Development:** 'Brandywine' resulted from a 1982 cross of *Acer rubrum* 'October Glory' and

A. rubrum 'Autumn Flame' by A. M. Townsend as part of a research project examining the inheritance of fall color and leafhopper resistance, and an effort to improve existing cultivars of red maple. It was released December 1994.

Significance: 'Brandywine' has a brilliant red-purple autumn color. It produces only male

flowers, so there are no fruits or nuisance seedlings. It has a significant level of tolerance to potato leafhopper, better than many commercially available red

maple cultivars.

**Description:** Height and Width: 25 feet tall with a 12-foot crown spread in 12 years.

**Habit:** Medium-sized deciduous tree with an oval crown.

**Foliage:** Medium green leaves average 4.5 inches long and 4.4 inches wide. Bright, enduring fall color begins red and gradually turns brilliant purple red over a long period, often 14 days or more. Fall color peaks between 'Autumn

Flame' and 'October Glory' in Maryland (Zone 7).

**Bark:** Light grey and smooth when young, turning dark grey with age.

**Flowers**: Male, in early spring. **Fruit:** No fruit produced.

Culture: Adaptable to a wide range of soil conditions. Prefers slightly acid, moist soils.

Performed well in diverse locations from Alabama and Georgia to Michigan

and Oregon.

**Propagation:** Roots easily from softwood cuttings under mist, 1000-3000 ppm IBA, in 4

weeks. Has been successfully propagated in tissue culture.

**Landscape use:** Excellent for lawn, street, highway or park plantings, and as a shade tree for

residential sites.

**Availability:** Distributed to wholesale commercial propagation nurseries beginning in 1995.

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