

DWARF MAPLE

By E. LAURENCE PALMER

THE COMMON NAME of dwarf maple might imply that this tree was really small. As a matter of fact it may reach a height of 30 feet and have a trunk diameter up to one foot. The branches are relatively small and upright. They are pale green to brown at first but by the end of the first half year have become a brilliant reddish brown. They may be somewhat angled and are



Dwarf Maple
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smooth. Sometimes the tree appears as a many branched shrub if a tree can by definition be a shrub. It is probably because of this habit that we have the name dwarf maple.

The dwarf maple ranges from Montana to the Black Hills of South Dakota down to Nebraska through Colorado, Utah, Nevada to northern Arizona and New Mexico. It is found in the Siskiyou into Kern county, Calif., and within its ranges is found up to altitudes of 6000 feet in the northern part of its range and of 9000 feet in the southern part. It is commonly found along the banks of water courses in the Rocky Mountain areas.

Like other maples, the dwarf maple has opposite leaves. They may be deeply 3-lobed or even 3-parted but in some the lobing is

shallow. They are five inches in diameter, a bright green above and considerably lighter beneath. They may be up to six inches long with a long or short petiole. Some times they may take on a brilliant red color. The twigs form a reasonably popular browse for mule deer and mountain sheep and white-tailed deer have been known to eat them.

Some of the plants bear rather conspicuous fruits while others seem to bear none. This is because the pollen is usually produced on plants different from those bearing the fruits. This is the usual thing in this tree but not always the case.

The fruits are much like those of other maples, consisting of two-winged parts with the wings extending in directions opposite to each other. The wings of the fruit may be almost an inch long and may be rose colored in the summer and red in the autumn. The fruits mature in late autumn and if collected for planting will be found to run as high as 20,000 to a pound. Fruits are sometimes harvested to start new plantings where soil erosion is to be kept under control and where the browse may have value to wildlife. Under the name of "Rocky Mountain Maple" it is sometimes raised in nurseries for sale as an ornamental.

The wood of the dwarf maple is heavy, hard, close-grained. The heartwood is light brown to white and the thick sapwood is usually lighter colored than the heartwood.

Phone Numbers

Bill Brown, police.....2531
Ambulance.....2181
City Recorder.....2854

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LOCAL NEWS

The new Assembly of God church is to be built on Azalea Road and Oak street, with Fir street as the south boundary line of the property, adjoining Brookside Azalea and Bulb Farm Gardens. The building will be erected in units to fill the needs of a congregation as it grows. The completed structure plans call for a beautiful edifice seating a large membership.

Somebody's brown dog, part cocker spaniel, has attached himself to Donald Richey and is staying at the home on Cove street, south of main business district.

The best way to teach our young people the meaning of our democratic freedom is to demonstrate by our own example that we have mastered the three R's of citizenship, "Rights, Respect and Responsibilities."

Bob Vincent, contractor for Jim Robinson's new building, is taking advantage of the good days to put in footings for the walls.

Mrs. Robert Taylor and son, Steven, of Portland came Friday

to visit her father, Floyd Swearingen, and family. She returned north on Sunday evening.

Mrs. Bessie Poe of Long Beach, Calif., is a guest of Mrs. Albert Joy, whose home is south of Harbor. Mrs. Poe, a Christian Science nurse, is en route to Denver, Colo.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Stewart, Hudson dealer of Medford, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mote of Grants Pass were Sunday visitors at the Phetteplace home.

Sgt. Bill Wagner, brother of Miss La Von Wagner, spent the weekend with his sister. He just returned from Korea and is

spending a 30-day furlough with his parents and another sister in Roseburg before going to Fairchild Airforce base at Spokane, Wash.

Vehicle License Applications

Last week notice was published that applications for driver licenses could be made at the Lesmeister Real Estate office. This is incorrect. Only applications for car and truck licenses may be made there. These were formerly handled by the B. B. Crabb Co.

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