

Laurel willow

Salix pentandra

Description

Introduced to North America as an ornamental tree.

Habit

Perennial, grows up to 25 ft tall, deciduous.

Leaves

Simple, alternate, toothed, lance-like to oblong, shiny dark green above, underside lighter green, not glaucous, occasional small stipules at base of blade.

Stems

Stiff; erect; green bark with a very rough texture.

Flowers

Dioecious, yellow in color, males have 5 stamens, arranged in a racemose catkin inflorescence.

Fruits and Seeds

Seed pod, contains numerous seeds embedded in white down which aids wind dispersal.





Habitat

Native to Europe and central Asia. Found in swamps, bogs, woodlands.

Reproduction

By seed, bare root, or cuttings.

Similar

Shining willow (*Salix lucida*).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Top growth removal by mowing or cutting; effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate or clopyralid.

Credits

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