

ArborTags



The leaves of the Sweetgum are 3-6" long and wide. Star shaped like simplified maple leaves with 5, occasionally 7, long pointed finely sawtoothed lobes and 5 main veins from a notched base. In autumn these leaves can turn brilliant yellow near the trunk, to dark purple or deep red on the periphery.

www.arborworks.org

Liquidambar styraciflua

Sweetgum

Redgum, Sapgum

©1996 American Association of Amateur Arborists

Liquidambar styraciflua

Sweetgum

Redgum, Sapgum



The fruit is best described as a prickly ball: about 1-2 inches of sharp spines on a long stem offering some excitement during mowing. Each individual fruit in this ball ends in 2 long curved prickly points. The fruits mature in fall and persist throughout winter.

www.arborworks.org



Sweetgum is a large (60-100') with a straight trunk and a bushy crown and is a fast growing lush variety. The bark is grey deeply furrowed into narrow warty ridges. The twigs often form unusual corky wings which must not be mistaken for disease.

www.arborworks.org

Liquidambar styraciflua

Sweetgum

Redgum, Sapgum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Sweetgum

Redgum, Sapgum

Also known as "Satin Walnut", the Sweetgum is second in production to the oaks among the hardwoods. A sweet gum was obtained from the trunks by peeling the bark and scraping the resin-like solid. This gum was used medicinally as well as for chewing gum.

www.arborworks.org