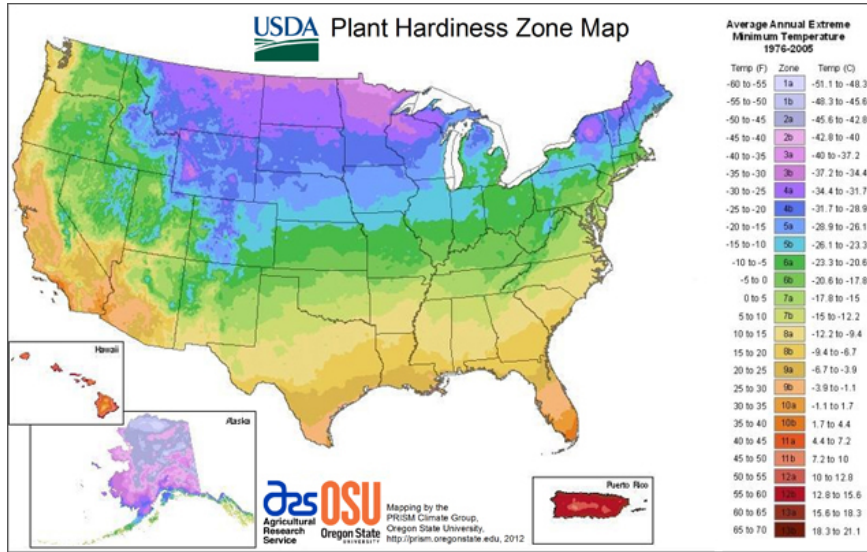


MAPLE (Acer)

CULTURAL CARE SHEET



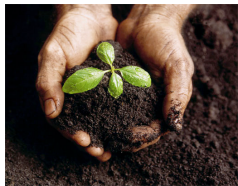
HARDINESS ZONE:

Maples grow best in USDA Zones 5-8. Special care will be required if the plant is grown outside of its ideal growing Zones and it is best to consult with local Extension Service agents for localized growing tips and suggestions.



WATER NEEDS:

Water regularly and deeply during the first growing season and during hot summers with drought conditions.



SOIL:

Maples are adaptable to almost any type of soil but perform best if planted in organically rich, moisture retentive, well-drained soil. Boggy, consistently wet soils promote "wet feet" and are not a good planting site for Maple plants.



MULCHING:

A layer of 2-3 inches of mulch will help keep moisture in the ground, will keep the roots cooler, and will provide vital nutrients to the plant as it breaks down. Mulch may need to be reapplied each year.



LIGHT REQUIREMENTS:

Maples prefer full sun, but in hot and dry climates, the plant will need to be protected from leaf burn by planting in partial shade. A full sun location receives at least six hours of direct sunlight each day while a partial sun site receives 4 to 6 hours of direct sunlight each day. Partial shade receives a maximum of 4 hours of direct sunlight each day. Dappled shade usually qualifies as a partial shade location.



PRUNING:

No special pruning is required. To shape the tree, wait until the tree is 3-4 years old before trimming.



FERTILIZE:

Instead of a yearly fertilizer application, Maples appreciate a nutrient boost by applying aged compost, well rotted manure, or chopped leaves over its entire root zone.