

Basswood
Tilia americana



Description: Medium to large trees to 80 feet tall, 3 feet diameter with broad crown commonly has roots sprouts around the trunk of mature trees. Bark deeply furrowed. Leaves heart-shaped, tooth. Buds red in winter

Leaves: alternate, simple, born singly on long 1.5 to 2.5 in stems. Blades oval to heart shaped 3 to 6 in long, 2/3 as wide, tooth edges, face not symmetrical, green and smooth above, palerr and somewhat hairy below. Turn yellow in fall

Bark: smooth on young trees, dark gray and deeply fissured when trees mature, resembles white ash or black walnut

Flowers: bisexual flowers yellow white, fragrant, and loose clusters on long stalk that has a leafy wing appearing June / July

Fruits: clusters, hard, nearly round 2 1/3 in, wooly with leafy Wing remaining ripe in September / October wind scattered

Habitat/Range: rich, moist woods, especially in ravines throughout Indiana