

Populus fremontii 'Nevada' - Fremont Cottonwood

This deciduous tree is native to riparian areas throughout middle California. It is typified by thick, glossy medium green leaves, densely covering an oval, upright form.

With plenty of water it can reach 40' in 5 to 8 years. With only occasional summer deep watering, it may grow half that fast, but retain the lush green look that is typical of the best forms of this species.

Since it is a dioecious species, and the female trees can produce quantities of woolly seed heads which break up into messy strings of "wool" which float on the lightest breeze, it is advisable to use only male forms like 'Nevada'. This clone was selected not only because it is staminate flowered, but for its excellent form and dark, leathery green foliage. The parent of this clone was designated the centennial tree for the state of Nevada--it is purported to be more than 100 years old.

Populus fremontii naturally occurs in association with Alnus rhombifolia, (White Alder), Platanus racemosa, (California Sycamore), and several species of Salix in riparian sites.

It performs just as well, however, in landscape combinations with other water tolerant or water requiring plants.

It should not be used in turf since this poplar, like others, will form a vast surface root system if encouraged to do so by lawn watering.