



## large-toothed aspen

*Populus grandidentata*

Kingdom: Plantae  
Division/Phylum: Anthophyta  
Class:  
Order:  
Family:

### FEATURES

The large-toothed aspen is also called the bigtooth aspen. This deciduous tree may grow to 60 feet tall with a trunk diameter of one and one-half feet. It has a rounded crown. The bark is gray-green, smooth at first then becoming broken into thin scales with age. The buds are pointed, red-brown and up to one-eighth inch long. The simple leaves are arranged alternately along the stem. Each leaf is nearly round, up to five inches long and about that wide. The leaf is toothed and appears green on the upper surface and pale on the lower surface. The flat leafstalk may be three inches long. Male (staminate) and female (pistillate) flowers are borne on separate trees, in catkins about five inches long. The fruit is a long, narrow, flask-shaped capsule. It contains many seeds with cottony hairs.

### BEHAVIORS

The large-toothed aspen may be found in the northern two-thirds of Illinois. It grows in disturbed areas in and around woodlands. Flowering occurs in April. The flat leafstalk allows the leaves to move in even the gentlest breeze. The wood is used for pulpwood.

### HABITATS

- bottomland forests
- coniferous forest
- southern Illinois lowlands
- upland deciduous forest

### ILLINOIS STATUS

- common
- endangered
- threatened
- native
- exotic

### ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: northern 2/3

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.  
Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume 2: Woodland Habitats CD-ROM.