## WESTERN DISTRIBUTION OF PLATANUS OCCIDENTALIS L. (PLATANACEAE) IN OKLAHOMA

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Extensive collections were made in Central Oklahoma during the summers of 1963 and 1964 to determine the western extent of Platanus occidentalis L. Collected specimens were deposited in the Bebb Herbarium at the University of Oklahoma.

P. occidentalis (sycamore) was found near creeks and rivers in the eastern halves of Love, Carter, Murray, Garvin, McClain, Cleveland, Pontotoc, Seminole, Pottawatomie, Lincoln, Logan, Payne, Pawnee, Kay, and Grant Counties. This distribution, from the Texas-Oklahoma border to the Kansas-Oklahoma border, represents the western extent of the species in Oklahoma (Figure 1).

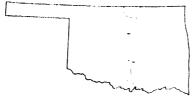


Figure 1. Distribution of Platanus occidentalis L. in Oklahoma. — According to U.S.D.A. Handbook No. 271 (1965). — According to present study.

The known range of the sycamore has been extended in most places from that reported

in a previous study by Little (1). (Six seedlings were planted in Caddo Canyon in 1964 and these may be assumed to be native by some investigators.) This plant grows to the west of the 97°00' meridian in its northern range. It is found growing along the large creeks and rivers, in an area of 29 to 38.6 inches of precipitation (2). The species will grow to a height of 30 to 70 ft and a diameter of 2.0 to 2.5 ft. the largest in Oklahoma being 21 ft 2 inches in circumference, 81 ft in height, with a 69 ft spread (located near Sperry in Tulsa County).

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