

Growing Hybrid Sweetgum in the southeastern United States

GOOD FOR PULP & PAPER
HIGH PRODUCTIVITY
SHORT ROTATIONS & COPPICE
BROADLY ADAPTIVE

WHY HYBRID SWEETGUM?

Hybrid Sweetgum provides multiple benefits for plantation production in the southeast U.S. including:

- Excellent fiber characteristics for pulp and paper
- Quality wood for lumber, veneer, furniture, manufactured boards or pellets
- High productivity for increased yields
- Lower bark content for easier processing
- Short rotations and coppice regeneration allow for multiple crops from a single seedling purchase
- Broad adaptability for growing on a range of sites across the Southeast
- Grows well on upland sites for accessibility year round

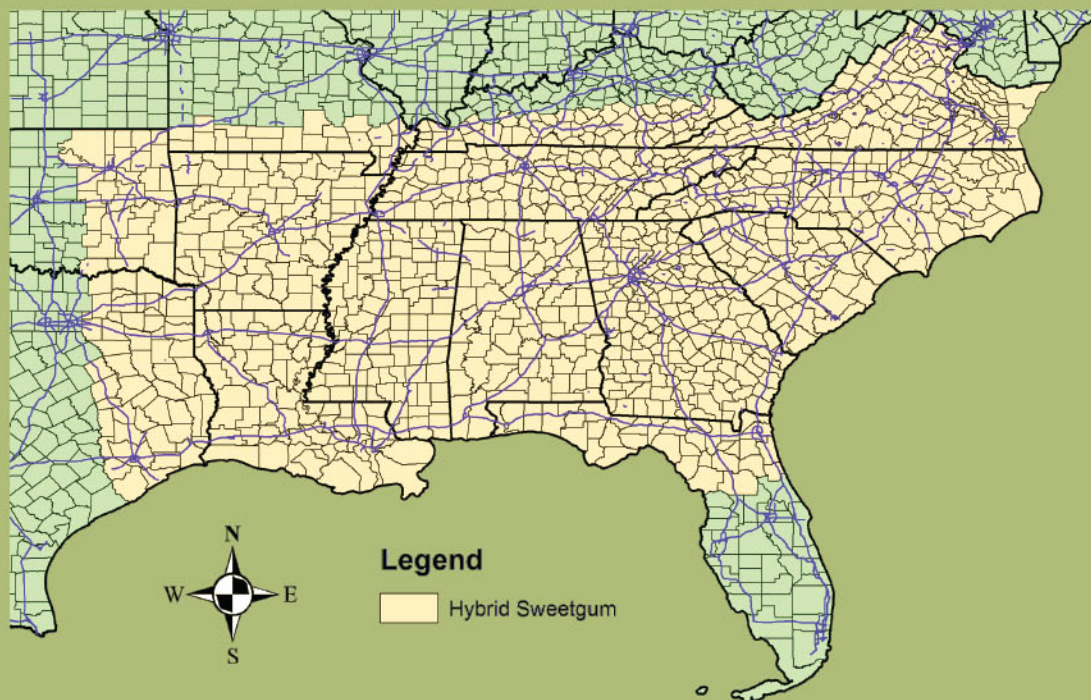


WHAT IS HYBRID SWEETGUM?

- Hybrid Sweetgum is a cross between American Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) and Formosan Sweetgum (*Liquidambar formosana*).
- To potentially develop hybrid vigor in the resulting progenies, ArborGen, along with our partners and collaborators, crossed 2nd generation selections of American Sweetgum using pollen from Formosan Sweetgum trees that had been growing in research plots in south Mississippi. The hybrid seeds were then vegetatively propagated through tissue culture and rooted cuttings to generate seedlings for test plantings. The first test was planted near Augusta, Georgia, in 2002, and since then test plots have been planted in Texas, Oklahoma, Alabama, South Carolina and Georgia.
- ArborGen has selected four hybrid varieties from these tests. The selected varieties have superior growth and wood specific gravity compared to the first and second generation American Sweetgum families in the same test.
- ArborGen began commercial sales of hybrid Sweetgum in 2014. The four varieties we sell are propagated using rooted cutting techniques very similar to those used in horticulture. The seedlings are sold as containerized dormant rooted cutting seedlings and are marketed as AGHS1, AGHS2, AGHS3 and AGHS4.

HYBRID SWEETGUM

PLANTING ZONES



HYBRID SWEETGUM PERFORMANCE AT AUGUSTA, GA SITE*

Variety	Height (ft)		DBH (in)		MAI (gr tons/ac/yr)		Specific Gravity
	Age 6	14	Age 6	14*	Age 6	14	Age 9
AGHS1	35	72	4.9	8.5	2.5	9.7	0.53
AGHS2	33	68	4.5	8.3	1.4	9.0	0.54
AGHS3	33	68	4.5	8.3	1.2	9.0	0.49
1st Gen OP	26	57	3.5	7.5	0.1	6.7	0.46

*Age 14 measures are projected from sweetgum growth and yield model.

TEST SERIES 2 AGHS4 IS THE TOP PERFORMING VARIETY AT ALL SITES

	Marion, TX		Cass, TX		Bibb, AL		Richland, SC	
	Ht*	Vol**	Ht	Vol	Ht	Vol	Ht	Vol
AGHS4	16	429	16	596	21	1075	24	1782
OP	13	173	16	416	16	333	21	1631

Age 5 trees

* Height measured in feet

** Volume is diameter² x height to equal average tree volume