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Fact Sheet

‘Shinsei’
Populusnigra‘LP 1’ x P. maximowiczii
NZ 85-069-002

THE NEW ZEALAND
POPLAR & WILLOW RESEARCH TRUST

‘Shinsei’ is a NZ-bred PVR-licensed tree that was first released commercially in 2000. It originates from a 1985 cross between the Italian *P. nigra* ‘LP 1’ and a *P. maximowiczii* male clone from Hokkaido, Japan.



Characteristics

‘Shinsei’ leaves are small and round, with a crinkled, undulating leaf appearance. The leaves are dark green on the upper surface and whitish-green below. ‘Shinsei’ leafs up earlier in spring than most other poplars, due to the *P. maximowiczii* parentage. The stem colour is grey-green, and the branch and trunk surfaces are smooth in texture.

‘Shinsei’ has good apical dominance and a steep branch angle, resulting in a narrow crown with no heavy limbs. ‘Shinsei’ is male.





Uses

‘Shinsei’ is recommended for general soil conservation purposes, particularly on moist inland sites, and is reasonably wind tolerant.

‘Shinsei’ is resistant to leaf rusts, leaf anthracnose, and also has low possum palatability.

Performance

The first nationwide trials of ‘Shinsei’ were established in 1999. At age 4, average heights of ‘Shinsei’ established as 3 m poles were 5.7 m (Canterbury), 5.2 m (Hawkes Bay) and 6.4 m (Te Kuiti). At Te Kuiti (ann. rainfall 1500 mm), average ‘Shinsei’ height was over 1 m taller than each of the *P. x euramericana* hybrids.

‘Shinsei’ height in a Manawatu gene pool collection was 16 m at age 10. The tree shown below (centre) is aged 3, in hill country near Palmerston North (ann. rainfall 1100 mm).





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