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(12) **United States Plant Patent**  
**Meilan et al.**(10) **Patent No.:** US PP17,525 P3  
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- (54) **POPLAR TREE NAMED 'CURLY POPLAR'**
- (50) Latin Name: *Populus canescens*×*Populus alba*  
hybrid  
Varietal Denomination: **Curly Poplar**
- (75) Inventors: **Richard Meilan**, West Lafayette, IN  
(US); **Samuel Grober**, Evanston, IL  
(US)
- (73) Assignee: **Purdue Research Foundation**, West  
Lafayette, IN (US)
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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
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- (51) **Int. Cl.**  
*A01H 5/00* (2006.01)
- (52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./218**
- (58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... Plt./218  
See application file for complete search history.

*Primary Examiner*—Kent Bell  
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Bose McKinney & Evans  
LLP

**ABSTRACT**

A popular tree particularly distinguished by having highly  
figured wood is disclosed.

**2 Drawing Sheets****1**

Genus and species: *Populus canescens*×*Populus alba*  
hybrid.

Variety denomination: 'Curly Poplar'.

**BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT**

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of poplar, botanically known as *Populus canescens*×*Populus alba* hybrid, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Curly Poplar'. This tree was discovered as a naturally occurring mutated sprout of an unnamed, unpatented poplar tree that grew in a cultivated area in Maryland. This tree produces high value curly-figured veneer. This new tree is currently growing in a cultivated area (a front yard) in Evanston, Ill. 'Curly Poplar' has been asexually reproduced by vegetative cuttings and has been shown to reproduce true to type in successive generations of asexual propagation.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

This new poplar tree is illustrated by the accompanying photographs which shows the tree's distinctive wood, a leaf from the tree and the overall habit of the tree. The colors shown are as true as can be reasonably obtained by conventional photographic procedures.

FIG. 1 shows the distinctive wood of the new poplar tree.

FIG. 2 shows a mature leaf from the tree.

FIG. 3 shows the overall habit of the tree.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR**

The following detailed description sets forth the distinctive characteristics of 'Curly Poplar'. The data which define these characteristics were collected from a 23-year-old tree in Evanston, Ill. Color references are to the Munsell Color Charts for Plant Tissues.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION****Classification:**

*Botanical name*.—*Populus canescens*×*Populus alba*  
hybrid.

*Common name*.—Poplar.

**2****Tree:**

*Shape*.—Upright and rounded with a dominant main trunk.

*Height (of entire tree including crown)*.—  
Approximately 65 feet.

**Trunk:**

*Size, at 23 years of age*.—Average diameter: 23 inches,  
measured at 4.5 feet above the ground. Height (to  
first limb/branch): 15 feet.

*Growth habit*.—Erect excurrent branching.

*Growth rate*.—3 feet/year.

*Bark color*.—Mottled with 2.5Y 5/2 and 2.5Y 7/2.

*Bark texture*.—Medium with interlocking furrows.

**Branches:**

*Size*.—Crown diameter of tree 23.0 feet at 23 years.  
Branches aged 15 years: Length: 12 feet. Diameter:  
5 inches.

*Branching habit*.—Dominant main stem with ascending  
excurrent branching.

*Color*.—2.5Y 8/4.

*Crotch angle*.—40 to 45 degrees.

*Internode length*.—Variable, from 6 inches to 3 feet.

**Lenticels:**

*Size*.—Length: ¼ inch. Width: ⅜ inch.

*Color*.—10R 6/8.

*Quantity*.—Approximately 2 to 3 per square inch.

**Leaves:**

*Immature*.—Length: 3–4 inches. Width: 2.5–4 inches.  
Shape: Sub-orbicular to deltoid, 3 poorly defined lobes.  
Apex: Acute to acuminate. Base: Truncate.  
Margin: Irregularly sharply dentate. Color: Upper  
surface: 2.5G 5.5. Lower surface: 5BG 4/4. Texture:  
Loose.

*Mature*.—Length: 2.5–3.5 inches. Width: 2–2.5 inches.  
Shape: Ovate. Apex: Acute to acuminate. Base:  
Truncate. Margin: Crenate-dentate. Texture: Firm.  
Color: Upper surface: 2.5G 5/8. Lower surface: 2.5G  
8/4.

*Pubescence distribution*.—Lower surface.

*Pubescence color*.—5BG 4/4.

*Petiole length.*—1.75–2.5 inches.  
*Petiole diameter.*— $\frac{1}{16}$  inch.  
*Petiole color.*—5BG 4/4.  
*Venation.*—Pinnate.  
Leaf buds:  
*Shape.*—Narrow-ovate.  
*Length.*— $\frac{3}{8}$ – $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.  
*Width.*— $\frac{1}{8}$ – $\frac{3}{16}$  inch.  
*Pubescence.*—Light.  
*Pubescence color.*—5YR 5/4.  
*Bud scales.*—Size: Length:  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch. Diameter:  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.  
  Shape: Ovate. Number: 8.  
Flower buds:  
*Shape.*—Ovate-globose.  
*Length.*— $\frac{3}{8}$ – $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.  
*Width.*— $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.  
*Texture.*—Smooth.  
*Color.*—7.5YR 5/4.  
Flowers:  
*Type.*—Dioecious male.  
*Time of flowering.*—Early –mid-April.  
*Length of flowering period.*—1 week.  
*Size.*—Length: 2–4 inches. Diameter:  $\frac{3}{8}$ – $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.  
*Filament color.*—White.  
*Anther color.*—Dark amber.  
*Stamen number.*—8 to 12.  
Disease and insect resistance: Resistant to anaerobic bacterial infection. No known insect pests.

## COMPARISON WITH MOST SIMILAR CULTIVAR

The inventors do not know whether the parent tree still exists, therefor, no comparison can be made. However, when compared to other typical poplar trees, ‘Curly Poplar’ is a distinct variety of poplar due to its highly figured wood. The highly figured wood is due to the tree’s undulating cross grain which results in a strong mottle-figured grain. All the other characteristics of this poplar tree are similar to those of *Populus canescens* and *Populus alba*.

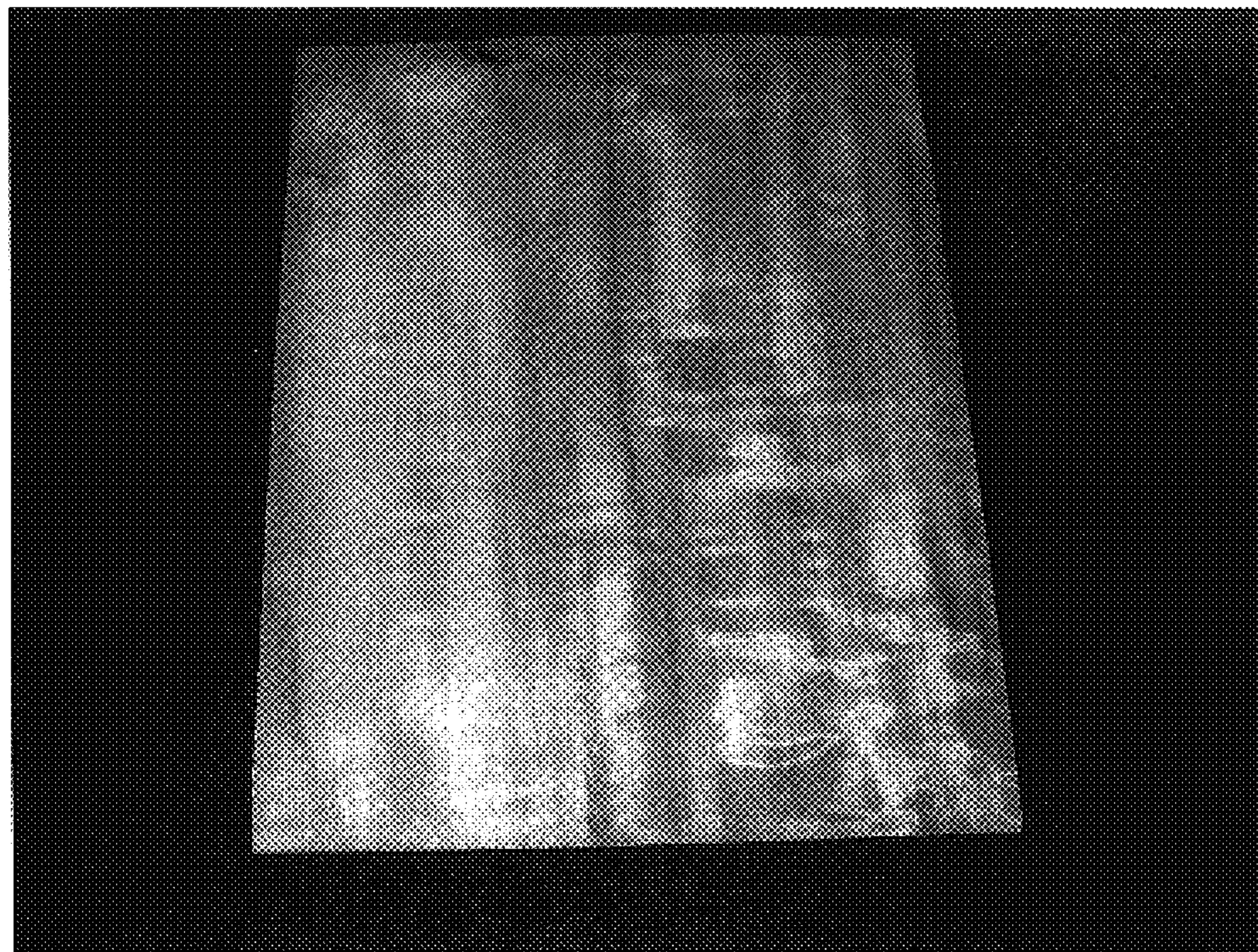
‘Curly Poplar’ differs from the commercial variety ‘Gnarly Poplar’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 15,613) in that the overall shape of ‘Curly Poplar’ is upright and rounded, while the overall shape of ‘Gnarly Poplar’ is upright and ellipsoidal. The bark texture of ‘Curly Poplar’ is medium with interlocking furrows, while the bark texture of ‘Gnarly Poplar’ is smooth. Additionally, ‘Curly Poplar’ has a mature height of approximately 65 feet, while ‘Gnarly Poplar’ has an expected mature height of 30 to 45 feet.

‘Curly Poplar’ differs from the commercial variety ‘Shinsei’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,664) in that the overall shape of ‘Curly Poplar’ is upright and rounded, while the overall shape of ‘Shinsei’ is straight and narrow. The leaf bud length of ‘Curly Poplar’ ranges from 0.375 to 0.5 inches, while the leaf bud length of ‘Shinsei’ ranges from 0.79 to 0.98 inches.

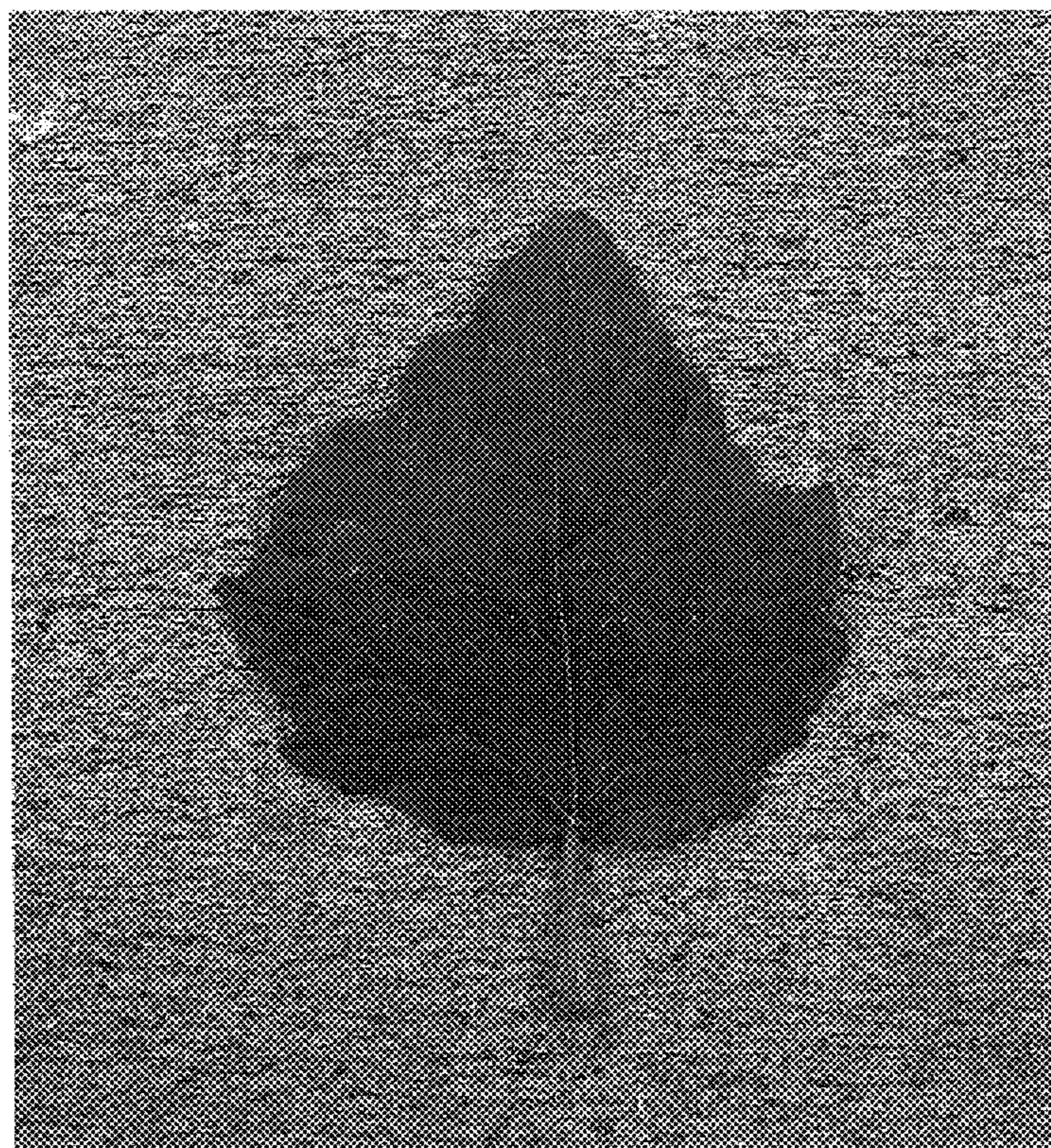
We claim:

1. A new and distinct poplar tree as shown and described herein.

\* \* \* \* \*



**Fig. 1**



**Fig. 2**



**Fig. 3**