Crescendo™
(Acer saccharum ‘Morton’) Sugar Maple*

Selected from the collections of The Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois, for its excellent heat and drought tolerance, durable dark green summer foliage, outstanding orange-red fall color, and uniform, broadly oval habit. This selection of the native sugar maple makes an excellent specimen or shade tree for the residential lawn, parks, and golf courses.
**Botanical Name**
*Acer saccharum* 'Morton'

**Trademark Name***
Crescendo™ Sugar Maple

**Family**
Sapindaceae: formerly Aceraceae

**Origin**
Selected from the collections of The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois. This tree was discovered as a spontaneous sapling growing in a hedge row at The Morton Arboretum. The landscape architect for the Arboretum noticed it because of its consistent fall coloration.

**Hardiness**
This selection is hardy to USDA Zones 5 to 7.

**General Description and Habit**
A uniformly branched, deciduous tree with a broadly oval habit. Has a more attractive and uniform habit than many other sugar maples.

**Size and Growth Rate**
Grows to 20 to 25 feet in height with a 15- to 20-foot spread in 10 to 15 years. Mature size will approach 40 to 45 feet tall and 30 to 35 feet wide. Moderate growth rate.

**Ornamental Characteristics**
The thick and durable foliage is dark green all summer, and reliably turns to a brilliant orange-red every autumn. An attractive tree with a uniform oval habit. The flowers and fruit are insignificant. The gray bark becomes slightly furrowed with age.

**Culture**
Grows best in full sun on a moderately moist, rich, well-drained acidic to slightly alkaline soil. Tolerant of heat and drought once established. More drought-tolerant than many midwestern grown sugar maple selections. Like most sugar maples, do not use on sites with compacted or restricted soils, or in areas with significant salt spray or runoff.

**Pest and Disease Problems**
Excellent heat and drought tolerance. Like other sugar maples, it does not tolerate compacted soils, areas with high air pollution, or significant salt spray or runoff. No significant disease or pest problems.

**Landscape Value**
Its excellent ornamental attributes makes this selection an outstanding shade and specimen tree for residential lawns, parks, and golf courses. Notable heat and drought tolerance. Consider it as a replacement tree for native ash trees (*Fraxinus* sp.) in areas infested with emerald ash borer.

---


The program is dedicated to the evaluation, selection, production, and marketing of recommended and new plant cultivars. Plants selected for the program have proven to be adaptable to the Midwest and are made available to the commercial and retail landscape industry through an international network of growers and propagators.

*Chicagoland Grows® and Crescendo™ are active trademarks of the Chicagoland Grows®, Inc. Plant Introduction Program.*