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*Populus*

*Salicaceae*

*Populus* is Latin (the people, nation) and is a classical Latin name for ‘poplar-tree’ (the tree of the people).

The poplar has been used for thousands of years not least by both the ancient Greeks and the Romans as an ornamental tree that would provide shade. It is mentioned in the Book of Genesis in the Old Testament of the *Bible* as being one of the trees used by Jacob to outwit his father-in-law and exact from him the promised striped and mottled goats that might be born to his herd.

The pollen oil from any of the species in this genus can cause dermatitis.