

# Fun Page

## Do You Know Your Foliage Facts?

1. In the fall, the leaves of some trees such as birches, tulip poplars, redbud and hickory are always what color? \_\_\_\_\_
2. The fall leaves of a few trees, including sugar maple, dogwood, sweet gum, black gum and sourwood, are usually \_\_\_\_\_ but may also be \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Unlike the bright colors of flowers, which attract pollinators, or the bright "warning colors" of many kinds of animals, the bright colors of fall foliage are a by-product of chemical changes as the trees start to go \_\_\_\_\_ (think of a plant life cycle stage).
4. The most intense of fall colors occurs in areas such as \_\_\_\_\_ (think U.S. Region), with almost pure stands of a few types of trees, such as maples and birches, that all turn color at the same time during the short fall season.
5. The most varied fall color, as well as the longest lasting, occurs in areas such as the southern \_\_\_\_\_ (think mountains), where a dozen or more kinds of trees may change color at slightly different times over the longer fall season.
6. The change in day length (photo-period) that causes the chemical changes in the trees leading to the bright colors, starts which month and day?
7. Leaves have just as much yellow pigment (xanthophylls) in the month of July, when they are green, as they do in the month of \_\_\_\_\_ when they are yellow. In July, the darker green pigment (chlorophyll) masks the yellow color.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ trees may shed their older leaves, which often turn bright yellow, in spring rather than fall, but they never drop all their leaves at one time, thus staying green all year.
9. The leathery evergreen leaves of \_\_\_\_\_ are shed individually from time to time over several years; it is not uncommon to find individual \_\_\_\_\_ (same last answer) leaves that have been on a plant for five or six years that are still green, healthy, and functional.

**Answers on back**

# Fun Page

## **ANSWERS**

1. Yellow (They are never red)
2. Red, Yellow
3. Dormant (These colors have no apparent biological function or significance)
4. New England
5. Appalachians
6. June 21 (the longest day of the year as the sun starts to move south and the days become shorter.
7. October
8. Evergreen
9. Rhododendron

***Please join us in congratulating the Modern Agrarians on their 55 years as a Community Action Group. They will be disbanding as a group and we wish them all well. Good luck and thank you!***

*Please forward any Fun Page suggestions to* Attn: Amy Pline, MFB Membership & Field Services,  
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***REMINDER:  
SUGGESTIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AND GREATLY APPRECIATED!***