



## FACT SHEET

### ‘Fabius’ *Salix viminalis* x *S. miyabeana*

‘Fabius’ is a fast-growing hybrid shrub willow that is a sibling of the cultivar ‘Tully Champion’, but is more resistant to potato leafhopper. ‘Fabius’ has excellent form for efficient mechanical harvesting as a dedicated bioenergy crop and has produced high yields on many sites.



**Botanical Name:** *Salix viminalis* × *S. miyabeana* 'Fabius'

(Family: Salicaceae)

**Hardiness:** U.S.D.A. Zones 4 - 6

**Development:** 'Fabius' was produced through controlled willow breeding in 1999 in Syracuse, NY, as part of a research project to produce new willow cultivars for bioenergy production. 'Fabius' has been tested across a wide variety of sites, displays good resistance to diseases and pests, and has agronomic traits suitable for mechanical planting and harvesting, including straight stems and crown form. 'Fabius' was produced by crossing *Salix viminalis* 'SV2' with *S. miyabeana* 'SX67'.

**Significance:** 'Fabius' has performed very well across many sites in IL, MI, NY, and VT, producing 2-6 dry tons per acre annually in yield trials resulting in an 17% increase in maximum first-rotation yield compared to the previous best commercial cultivar, SX61. It has greater resistance to potato leafhopper than 'Tully Champion', but is relatively more susceptible to leaf sawfly. Woody stems can be harvested every three to four years, and new shoots will re-sprout the following season. 'Fabius' has produced over 6 dry tons per acre per year in first-rotation harvests.

**Description:**

**Height and Width:** 20-25 feet tall, 3-5 foot crown spread at 3 years when grown at 6,000 plants per acre.

**Habit:** Fast-growing, deciduous shrub with multiple large-diameter, vertical stems.

**Foliage:** Dark green oblong leaves, typically 3-4 inches long, 0.5-1 inches wide, with foliage April through October in Zone 5.

**Bark:** Yellow-green when young, turning greyed-green with age; red-orange buds in winter.

**Flowers:** Female, early spring.

**Seeds:** No seeds are produced because 'Fabius' is a sterile triploid.

**Culture:** Adaptable to a wide range of soil and moisture conditions. Requires maximum sunlight.

**Propagation:** Roots easily from dormant stem cuttings.

**Uses:** Excellent for bioenergy plantations, living snow-fences, and ornamental structures. Dried stems can be used in basketry.

**Availability:** Available from Double A Willow ([www.doubleawillow.com](http://www.doubleawillow.com))

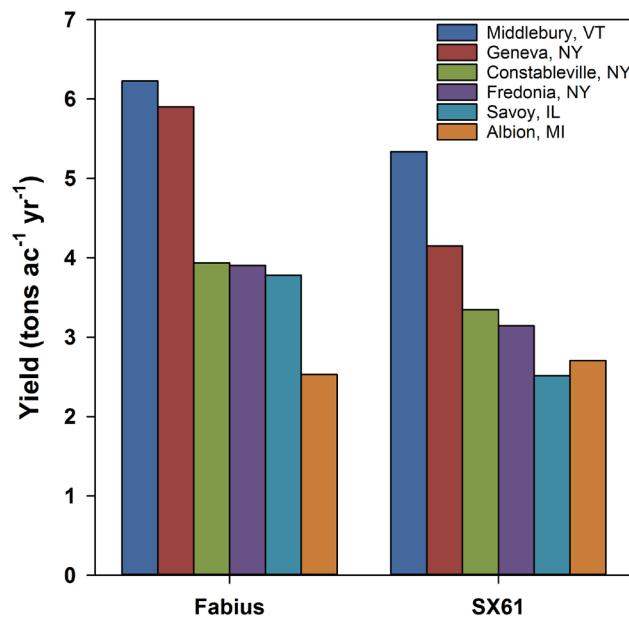
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