

1105-76-206

Laura A Miller* (lam9@unc.edu), CB 3250 Phillips Hall, Chapel Hill, NC 27599. *Plant Leaves Reconfigure into Cone Shapes to Reduce Drag and Flutter.*

We examine how leaves roll up into drag reducing shapes in strong flows. The dynamics of the flow around the leaves of the wild ginger and tulip poplar are described and compared to simplified sheets using 3D numerical simulations and physical models. In the actual leaf, a stable recirculation zone is formed within the wake of the reconfigured cone. In physical and numerical models that reconfigure into cones, a similar recirculation zone is observed. (Received September 20, 2014)