## 3 Moist Ravine and Talus Forests

Broad leave tree-rich forests on steep slopes, in ravines, on stony slopes - to a large extent consolidated sites.

# **Example: Sycamore Maple -Ash-Wet Forest**

The sycamore maple-ash-wet forest occurs on markedly nutrient-rich, fresh to moist colluvial soils on lower and water-dynamic slopes or on alluvial stream and river sediments. Ash is stand-forming and is accompanied by sycamore maple. Scots elms are sporadic. On dynamic stony slopes with a cool-moist climate, transitions to large-leaved lime-sycamore maple-Scots elmforests are possible. They are broad leave tree-rich continuous communities. Beech may only appear on consolidated sites. In oreal areas this community is replaced by the elm-maple-forest. The sites have a balanced water balance.



Aiternbach, Rural district Lörrach, Southern Black Forrest, east of Belchen; May 2007

### Site characteristics:

Altitude: submontane to montane
Soil reaction: slightly acidic to alkaline
Nutrient value: mesotrophic to eutrophic
Moist balance: fresh to permanently moist

Substrate, soil type: labile talus, fine-soil with fine talus to rough rocks, biologically active soils

Predominate tree species:	Further tree species:	Shrubs:	Herbs:
Sycamore Maple	Large-leaved Lime	Elderberry	Herb Robert, Herb Christopher, Herb Gerard
Ash	Scots Elm Norway Maple	Gooseberry	Giersch, False Brome, Wood Sedge, Hedge Woundwort

### Plant sociology:

Class: Querce-Fagetea Alliance: Tilio-Acerion

Order: Fagetalia sylvaticae

Association: Fraxino-Aceretum pseudoplatani (W.Koch 26) Rübel 30 ex Tx. 37 em. et nom. inv. Th. Müller 66

#### **Bordering communities:**

Zonal forest communities, mainly woodruff- or wood-rush-beech forests

#### **Degree of endangerment:**

after RIECKEN et al. 1994 troughout Germany: endangered to vulnerable (level 2-3)

0 extinct 2 endangered 1 critically endangered 3 vulnerable