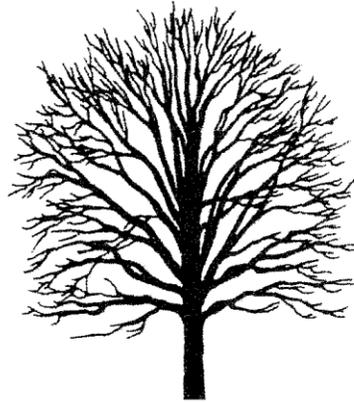


White Oak



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This is a tree with wide-spreading branches and a rounded crown at maturity. The trunk irregularly branches into spreading and often horizontal stout limbs. A most important lumber tree with hard, strong, tough close grained brown wood that was used for making whisky and other barrels in colonial times. The bright green leaves are undulatingly lobed, gray green on the underside and red or brown in the fall. The bark is light grey and scales irregularly into plates or is deeply fissured with narrow ridges. A slow-growing tree but one of the most handsome of the oaks. It grows best in deep moist well drained acid soils.

HABIT AND SIZE: Mature height of 100' with a spread of so-so ' with some specimens having a spread of over 150'. The young trees have a pyramidal form which goes to upright rounded and then to broad rounded as it matures.

LANDSCAPE VALUE: Although magnificent, this tree is difficult to transplant and slow growing.

LEAVES: Simple, alternately arranged, obovate in outline, narrowed at base, pinnately lobed into 3-9 oblong obtuse ascending entire lobes. The leaves are 4-7" long and 2-4.5" wide.

They are pubescent when young and hairless at maturity. They are dark green on top and pale and more or less glaucous underneath. Their color is grayish and pinkish when young, dark green in summer and turn a brown to a rich red to wine color in the fall.

FLOWERS: Monoecious, staminate flowers of a 4-7lobed calyx with 6 stamens located on clustered pendant catkins. Pistillate flowers solitary or in few to many flowered spikes with an involucre. Each flower has a 6 lobed calyx surrounding a 3 celled ovary.

FRUIT: An acorn 0.375-1.25" long, ovoid-oblong, enclosed for one quarter of its length by a shallow cup that is a light chestnut-brown and with hairy scales. Acorn matures the first year.

BUD: Overlapping, 0.125-0.25", broadly ovate, blunt, reddish brown to brown occasionally with some hairs especially at the ends of the bud scales.

DISEASES AND INSECTS: Although white oak is hard, there is a long list of potential problems that occasionally trouble the oaks. These include anthracnose, basal canker, canker, leaf blister, leaf spots, powdery mildew, rust, twig blights, wilt, wood decay, shoe string root rot, various galls, scales, yellow-necked caterpillar, pin borer, flat-headed borer, oak lace bug, leaf miner, leaf miner, oak lace bug and oak mite

HARDINESS AND RANGE: Zones 3-9. Maine to Ontario, Minnesota, Florida and Texas.

CULTIVARS: Some hybrids with *Quercus macrocarpa*.