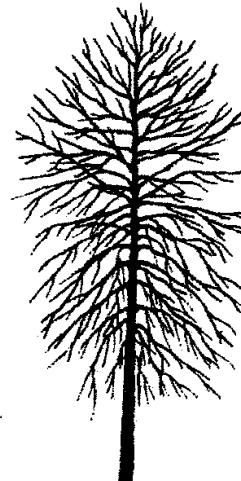
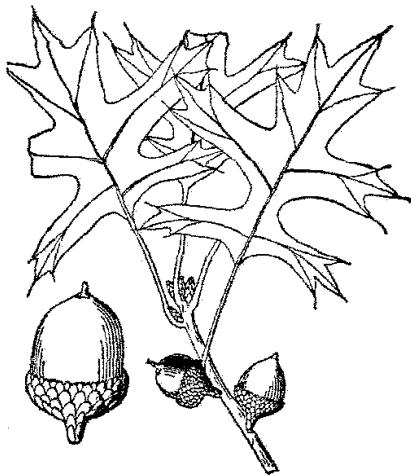


Pin Oak

Quercus palustris



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This is the easiest oak to grow and transplant and is very commonly planted as a street tree in urban areas. It has ridged dark grey /brown bark which is usually thin. The leaves are similar to red oak but much narrower and they turn reddish brown in the fall. Pin oak produces small acorns. Its general growth habit is pyramidal.

HABIT AND SIZE: Grows up to 70 feet high and 25-40 feet wide. The overall shape tends to be pyramidal with a central peak when young and oval shape when older. The lower branches are pendulous and the middle branches are straight.

LANDSCAPE VALUE: A fast growing oak (12-15' in 5-7 years) it is easily transplanted due to a shallow fibrous root system. Its distinctive pyramidal habit, lustrous green leaves and scarlet fall color make this a favored tree for streets and parks. Hardy in zones 4-8.

LEAVES: Range in length from 3-6 inches, are elliptic to oblong, pinnately lobed with 5-9 bristle tipped lobes and deep sinuses. They are bright green above and pale below and have tufts of brown hairs on the vein axils on the underneath side. The leaves turn scarlet in the fall.

FLOWERS: In late spring staminate flowers are borne in yellow-green drooping catkins and the pistillate flowers are borne on inconspicuous spikes.

FRUIT: Pin oak produces a hemispherical acorn that is 1/ 2" long and wide that is light brown and enclosed about 1/3 by a saucer like cup. These nutlets are born singly or in clusters.

BUD: Overlapping buds (imbricate) that are conical to ovate and sharply pointed are borne on pin-like twigs and spurs.

HARDINESS AND RANGE: Zones 4-8(9). Central Midwest to North Carolina. Great lakes down to central North Carolina and west to NE Oklahoma.

DISEASES AND INSECTS: Gall can cause problems. Iron chlorosis is a problem where the soil pH is high.

CULTIVARS: "Crownright" has non-weeping lower branches at an angle of 30-60 degrees with verticle and "Sovereign" has lower branches at 45-90 degree angles.