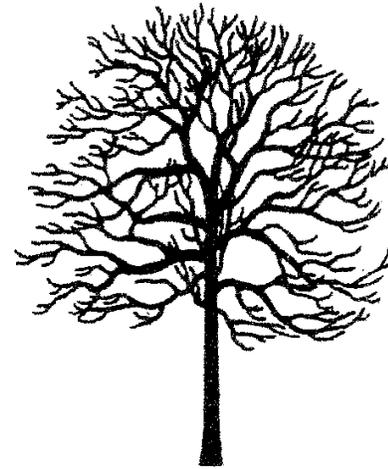
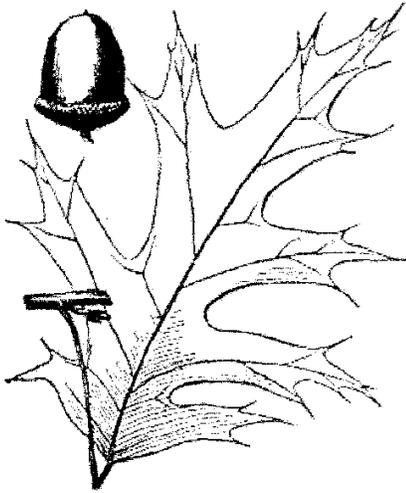


Red Oak

Quercus
Fagaceae

Quercus rubra



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The red oak is a large tree with spreading branches and a rounded crown. Growing on moist, loamy, sandy, rocky and clay soils frequently in pure stands; it is the northern most eastern oak and the most important species for lumber that is used for flooring, furniture etc. Springtime leaves are bronze-red in color turning to a lustrous green in summer and to russet red to bright red in the fall. It has brown acorns which are among the first to ripen in the fall and are an important food source for deer and wild turkeys. Its shallow root system makes it easy to transplant but susceptible to drought. The bark of older trunks can be almost black and broken up by flat ridges with shallow fissures resembling ski tracks. Younger barks lack these ridges and are generally smoother in appearance.

HABIT AND SIZE: 60-80' in height and can spread up to 75' . Can grow to 100' in the wild.

LANDSCAPE VALUE: A fast growing oak (2'/yr over 10 yrs) that is easy to transplant and which gives a large nice rounded appearance in an open space such parks and golf courses.

LEAVES: alternately arranged, 4-5 to 8.5 " long and 4-6" wide, oval or elliptical in shape, pinnately lobed with 7-11 wavy lobes that are divided less than half way to the midvein. Dark green above and pale yellow underneath with tufts of brown hair along midvein.

FLOWERS: staminate flowers engendered from catkins 4-5 " long and calyx separated in 4-5 rounded lobes. Pistillate flowers from spikes with bright green stigmas. Monoecious

HARDINESS AND RANGE: Zones 4-8. Eastern United States and Canada, Nova Scotia to Pennsylvania west to Minnesota and Iowa

FRUIT: An acorn 3/ 4-1" long borne alone or doubly ripening the second season, with a nut that is oblong, light brown color and pointed at the apex. Caps cover the upper quarter.

BUD: Overlapping, 1/4-1/ 3" long, reddish brown, pointed at apex and with rusty brown to yellowish grey or dirty white hairs at apex and pubescent margins of scales.

DISEASES AND INSECTS: Mostly problem free with occasional attack by any from the generalist of oak maladies (see *Quercus alba*). Susceptible to drought.

CULTIVARS: 'Aurea' with clear yellow younger leaves. Probably more drought intolerant.