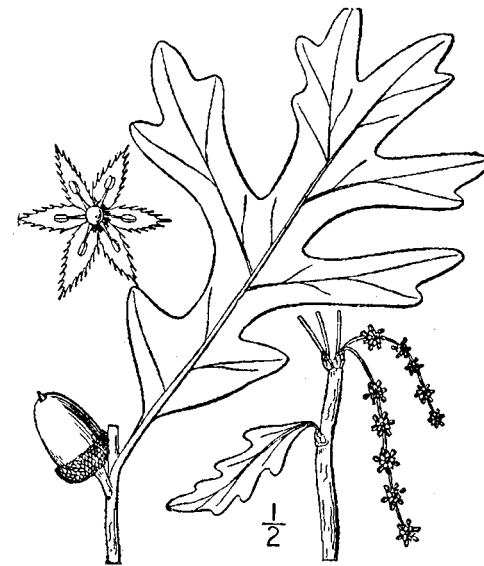


White Oak



White Oak

Description: A classic eastern oak with wide spreading branches and a rounded crown. A majestic tree all year long. In the spring, the new leaves and flowers combine for a pastel tint on the limbs. In the summer, it is a superior shade tree. In the fall, the leaves are rich with color, and the acorns attract an array of wildlife. In the winter, it presents a stately silhouette with light gray, platy bark and a wide open crown. The white oak can live for centuries, becoming more picturesque with age. Suitable for larger areas.

Height: 80 - 100 feet.

Trunk Diameter: 3 - 4 feet.

Spread: 50 - 80 feet (from center at full maturity) .

Growth Rate: Slow to moderate.

Leaves: 4 -9 inches, elliptical, bright green.

Fall Color: Red to brown.

Flowers: Female flowers are reddish, minute, single or paired on short stalks. Male staminate flowers are yellow-green in drooping clustered catkins, not showy in the spring.

Fruit: Acorns 3/8 - 1 1/4 inches egg shaped. Good acorn crops are irregular and occur only every 4 to 10 years. Sometimes several years may pass without a crop.

Root: The White Oak is deep rooted tree, up to 16 feet, a trait that persists from youth to maturity. White Oak seedlings produce a taproot that gradually disappears with age and is replaced by a fibrous root system with well-developed, tapered laterals. Root depth of mature trees is up to 4 feet.

Sun: Full sun.

Value: White Oak acorns are a valuable though an inconsistent source of wildlife food. More than 180 different kinds of birds and mammals use oak acorns as food. Among them are squirrels, blue jays, crows, red-headed woodpeckers, deer, turkey, quail, mice, chipmunks, ducks, and raccoons.