

Amelanchier arborea 'Autumn Brilliance' Serviceberry

Common Name: Serviceberry

Botanical Name: *Amelanchier laevis*, *Amelanchier x grandiflora*

Type: Deciduous Tree

Soil Preference: These plants tolerate some drought and some salt. Will grow in dry soils but prefers well-drained, sandy or clay soils. The pH preference is acidic to slightly alkaline.

Light Requirements: Full Sun, Partial Sun, Partial Shade

Attributes: Attracts birds & butterflies

Pests: Borer. Leaf miner will mine leaves, particularly the lower half of the leaf.

Diseases: Fire Blight, Leaf Blight

Care: Pruning is usually not necessary. Clear away all grass and plants from beneath the branches and mulch to the drip line to reduce competition with turf and weeds. Train and prune the trunks and branches so they will not touch each other. Flowers develop from buds formed the previous year so only prune after flowering. Fertilize with Holly-tone or Plant-tone approximately April 1st, May 20th, July 4th, August 15th & October 30th. Keep granular fertilizers off foliage and away from stems and trunks. Use 1/2 the recommended rate of fertilizer for new plantings.

Carpinus caroliniana Hornbeam

American hornbeam is also occasionally known as blue-beech, ironwood, or musclewood. It is native to eastern North America.

It is a small tree reaching heights of 10–15 m, rarely 20 m, and often has a fluted and crooked trunk. The bark is smooth and greenish-grey, becoming shallowly fissured in old trees. The leaves are alternate, 3–12 cm long, with prominent veins giving a distinctive corrugated texture, and a serrated margin. The male and female catkins appear in spring at the same time as the leaves. The fruit is a small 7–8 mm long nut, partially surrounded by a three- to seven-pointed leafy involucre 2–3 cm long; it matures in autumn. The seeds often do not germinate till the spring of the second year after maturing.

There are two subspecies, which intergrade extensively where they meet:

Carpinus caroliniana subsp. *caroliniana*. Atlantic coastal plain north to Delaware, and lower Mississippi Valley west to eastern Texas. Leaves mostly smaller, 3–9 cm long, and relatively broader, 3–6 cm broad.

Carpinus caroliniana subsp. *virginiana*. Appalachian Mountains and west to Minnesota and south to Arkansas. Leaves mostly larger, 8–12 cm long, and relatively narrower, 3.5–6 cm broad.

It is a shade-loving tree, which prefers moderate soil fertility and moisture. It has a shallow, wide-spreading root system. The wood is heavy and hard, and is used for tool handles, longbows, walking sticks, walking canes and golf clubs. The leaves are eaten by the caterpillars of some Lepidoptera, for example the Io moth (*Automeris io*)

Chionanthus virginicus Virginia Fringe Tree

Common Name: Fringe Tree, Old Man's Beard

Botanical Name: *Chionanthus*

Type: Deciduous tree

Growth Rate: Slow, 6-10" per year

Soil Preference: Tolerates drought and occasional wetness and will grow in dry to moist soils but prefers well-drained/loamy, sandy or clay soils with a pH of acidic to slightly alkaline (less than 7.5)

Light Requirements: Full sun, partial sun, partial shade

Attributes: Pest tolerant, attracts birds

Pests: Relatively pest free except scale and mites can be a problem if planted in full sun

Diseases: Leaf spots, powdery mildew, stem canker

Care: Fertilize with Holly-tone according to the directions.

Diospyros virginiana Persimmon

American persimmon, is known by a variety of names including common persimmon, Eastern persimmon, “simmon” and “possumwood”. It ranges from New England to Florida, and west to Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Kansas. The tree grows wild but has been cultivated for its fruit and wood since prehistoric times by Native Americans.

D. virginiana grows to 20 m (66 ft), in well-drained soil. In summer, the tree produces fragrant flowers which are dioecious, so both male and female plants must be grown if seed is required. The flowers are pollinated by insects and wind. Fruiting typically begins when the tree is about six years old.

The fruit is round or oval and usually orange-yellow, ranging to bluish, in color and from 2 to 6 cm (0.79 to 2.4 in) in diameter. In the American South and Midwest, the fruits are referred to as simply persimmons or “simmons”, and are popular in desserts and cuisine.

Hamamelis virginiana Witchhazel

Hamamelis virginiana is a species of Witch-hazel native to eastern North America.

It is a deciduous large shrub growing to 6 m (rarely to 10 m) tall, with a dense cluster of stems from the base.

The bark is light brown, smooth, scaly, inner bark reddish purple.

The flowers are pale to bright yellow, rarely orange or reddish, with four ribbon-shaped petals 10–20 mm long and four short stamens, and grow in clusters; flowering begins in about mid-fall and continues until late fall.

The forked twigs of Witch Hazel are preferred as divining rods. An extract of the plant is used in the astringent witch hazel. The bark and leaves were used by native Americans in the treatment of external inflammations.

Ilex opaca American Holly

Ilex opaca (American Holly) is a species of holly, native to the eastern United States

Like all hollies, it is dioecious, with separate male and female plants; only female plants produce the characteristic red berries. One male can pollenize several females.

The species typically grows as an understory tree in forests.

The flowers are pollinated by insects, including bees, wasps, ants, and night-flying moths. The berries are reputedly poisonous to humans, but are important survival food for birds, who will eat the berries after other food sources are exhausted. The tree also forms a thick canopy which offers protection for birds from predators and storms. Songbirds including thrushes, mockingbirds, catbirds, bluebirds and thrashers frequently feed on the berries.

The wood is very pale, tough, close-grained, takes a good polish, and is used for whip-handles, engraving blocks, and cabinet work. It can also be dyed and used as a substitute for ebony. In English poetry and English stories the Holly is inseparably connected with the merry-making and greetings which gather around Christmas time.

Quercus alba White Oak

Quercus alba, the white oak, is one of the pre-eminent hardwoods of eastern North America. Specimens are known to have lived over 600 years.

The white oak is fairly tolerant of a variety of habitats, and may be found on ridges, in valleys, and in between, in dry and moist habitats, and in moderately acid and alkaline soils. It is mainly a lowland tree. It does not tolerate urban conditions well due to an intolerance of soil compaction and changes in soil levels.

White oak has tyloses that give the wood a closed cellular structure, making it water- and rot-resistant. Because of this characteristic, white oak is used for barrels for wine and whiskey production since it resists leaking. It has also been used in construction, shipbuilding, cooperage, agricultural implements, and in the interior finishing of houses.[2]

It was a signature wood used in mission style oak furniture by Gustav Stickley in the Craftsman style of the Arts and Crafts movement.[citation needed]

White oak is used extensively in Japanese martial arts for some weapons, such as the bokken and jo. It is valued for its density, strength, resiliency and relatively low chance of splintering if broken by impact, relative to the substantially cheaper red oak. Urban legend attributes Japanese white oak (“Kashi”) as being the wood of choice but, by law, no white oak is harvested in Japan. Virtually all white oak used in the manufacture of weapons in Japan is imported from the northwestern United States.

The acorns are much less bitter than the acorns of red oaks. They are small relative to most oaks, but are a valuable wildlife food, notably for turkeys, wood ducks, pheasants, grackles, jays, nuthatches, thrushes, woodpeckers, rabbits, squirrels and deer. They were also used for food by Native Americans. The white oak is the only known food plant of the *Bucculatrix luteella* and *Bucculatrix ochrisuffusa* caterpillars.

Celtis occidentalis Hackberry

Celtis species are generally medium-sized trees, reaching 10–25 m (33–82 ft) tall, rarely up to 40 m (130 ft) tall. The leaves are alternate, simple, 3–15 cm (1.2–5.9 in) long, ovate-acuminate, and evenly serrated margins. Small monoecious flowers appear in early spring while the leaves are still developing. Male flowers are longer and fuzzy. Female flowers are greenish and more rounded.

The fruit is a small drupe 6–10 mm (0.24–0.39 in) in diameter, edible in many species, with a dryish but sweet, sugary consistency, reminiscent of a date.

Several species are valued for their drought tolerance.

Common Hackberry is a honey plant and pollen source for honeybees of lesser importance. Hackberry wood is sometimes used in cabinetry and woodworking.

Celtis species are used as foodplants by the caterpillars of certain Lepidoptera.

Quercus rubra Red Oak

Northern red oak grows straight and tall, to 28 m (90 ft), exceptionally to 43 m (140 ft) tall, with a trunk of up to 50-100 cm (20-40 in) diameter.

It grows rapidly and is tolerant of many soils and varied situations, although it prefers the glacial drift and well-drained borders of streams.

Northern red oak is easy to recognize by its bark, which feature bark ridges that appear to have shiny stripes down the center. A few other oaks have bark with this kind of appearance in the upper tree, but the northern red oak is the only tree with the striping all the way down the trunk.

The northern red oak is one of the most important oaks for timber production in North America. The wood is of high value. Construction uses include flooring, veneer, interior trim, and furniture.

Red oak wood grain is so open that smoke can be blown through it from end-grain to end-grain on a flat-sawn board. For this reason, it is subject to moisture infiltration and is unsuitable for outdoor uses such as boatbuilding or exterior trim.