

University of Idaho College of Natural Resources

Carpathian walnut

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Carpathian walnut (Juglans regia var. carpathian) is primarily grown for its outstanding nut qualities. A variety of English (also called Persian) walnut, this species is the most common nut tree

planted in Idaho and has escaped and become naturalized in the warm river canyons of the western part of the state. This variety of walnut is native to the Carpathian mountains eastward to Korea, but was brought to Europe through Persia in early history. Carpathian walnut is a more cold hardy strain of English walnut (*Juglans regia*) and can be grown further north than English walnut and in climates with more variable winters.

Biology and Silvics

Carpathian walnut has a rounded, spreading crown, and often reaches 40 to 60 feet in height. It is deeprooted (nine to 12 feet) and develops strong tap-roots if restrictive layers are not present in soils. Carpathian walnut is extremely intolerant of soil flooding and salinity.

Carpathian walnut flowers from mid-May to early June and flowers occur at the same time foliage is leafing out. All walnut species are extremely susceptible to late frosts and will often lose new foliage and flowers to this type of damage. Carpathian walnut is monoecious (bearing separate male and female flowers on the same tree) and relies on wind for pollination. Because of this, trees need to be in close proximity to ensure fruit set. A common practice is to plant Carpathian walnut trees in groves.

Walnuts ripen in September or October and drop from the tree shortly after the leaves fall. Carpathian walnuts have thin shells and, unlike other walnuts, are released from the fleshy outer covering when ripe, making them much easier to shell than other species of w-.0192 Tc(th6e and)Tonht. Iy0215 de/Tnecs varc{W)73.9(alnuth)

