



Oaks

Yvonne C. Barkley

Establishment

tree; 50 to 80 feet tall with a broad, pyramid shaped crown.

Regional insect & disease problems: oak wilt.

Objectional characteristics: iron chlorosis in alkaline soils.

Other: transplants well; tolerates short periods of flooding; good for use in areas too wet to support other species; large acorn crops every two to three years valuable for wildlife, especially ducks; wood is coarse-grained, hard, heavy, and is used in general construction as posts and for firewood; an ornamental favorite; one of the best oaks for fall color.

Species: *Quercus rubra*

Common names: northern red oak, eastern red oak, mountain red oak, gray oak.

Native range: eastern United States; only native red oak extending into Nova Scotia.

Hardiness: USDA Zone 4 to 8.

Soil type: will tolerate moist or dry soils; does well in alkaline conditions, with moderate irrigation.

Shade tolerance: intolerant.

Form: large, semi-formal tree; 60 to 90 feet tall with a spread of 40 to 60 feet.

Regional insect & disease problems: oak wilt.

Objectionable characteristics: susceptible to damage from fire.

Other: less difficult to transplant than most oaks; tolerates air pollution, compacted soils; hardy throughout Idaho; nuts provide important food for squirrels, turkeys, mice, and other mammals and birds.

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