

AgBark



A series of tree insights

Did you know?
White Oaks can
live for centuries.

Overview

- The White Oak is the state tree of three US States. Maryland, Connecticut, and Illinois.
- White Oaks are extremely sensitive to soil compaction and grade changes.
- The acorns are one of the best sources of food for wildlife and are gathered, hoarded and eaten by birds, hoofed browsers and rodents. Leaf buds also are eaten by several bird species, and all parts of the tree are a favorite food for deer.

Tree Details

Mature Height
50' - 80'

Growth Speed
Slow to
Medium

Shape
Oval

Sun Preference
Full Sun, Partial
Sun/Shade

White Oak

Kingdom: Plantae

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Fagales

Family: Fagaceae

Genus: Quercus

White Oaks in Agriculture

- It was (and still is) also preferred wood for those beautiful wooden barrels found in wineries and whiskey distilleries across the United States. Why? Strength and durability are important factors, but this choice is also due to microscopic tissues called tyloses that 'plug' the vascular cells of the wood, sealing in the barrel's liquid contents.
- There are several producers and farmers in the U.S. who specialize in White Oak products, particularly in the lumber and barrel-making industries.
- White Oak is the most commercially important timber oak in the U.S. generating billions of dollars annually. These producers play a crucial role in supplying White Oak for the production of barrels for aging bourbon and wine.

History

- The White Oak forever earned its place in history books when it was combined with other oak lumber to build the famous USS Constitution (also known as "Old Ironsides").
- Even in World War II, White Oak served our country as the keels of minesweepers and patrol boats.