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## EC04-1759 Nebraska Register of Champion Trees 2004

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University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension EC04-1759



NATIONAL CHAMPION  
Eastern Cottonwood  
Daryl Hackbart  
Milford, Neb.

# Nebraska Register of Champion Trees 2004



Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work. Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.  
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SCHOOL OF NATURAL  
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107 Plant Industry Building,  
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Lincoln, NE 68583-0814

# The Nebraska Champion Tree Program

Nebraska always played a major role in the lives of Nebraskans. Native trees were used to build the first pioneer homes. They were also used to heat them and protect them from wind. Trees in our communities and forests provide beauty, protection from wind and blowing snow, useful products, wildlife habitat, cleaner air and water and many other benefits. Clearly, trees contribute to "the good life" in Nebraska. The Nebraska Champion Tree Register helps to remind us of the contribution trees make to the quality of our lives, and to celebrate the beauty, mystery, inspiration and sense of awe that come from being around truly large and ancient trees.

The Nebraska Champion Tree program identifies and recognizes the largest living specimen of all native and the most common introduced tree species in Nebraska. It is administered by the Nebraska Community Forestry Council, UNL Cooperative Extension, and the Nebraska Forest Service. There are over 80 species listed in the Nebraska Champion Tree Register. These tree aristocrats are natural, historical and cultural landmarks. Spend some time around them -

Champion Trees? While Nebraska is considered a "prairie guarantee you will be impressed.

Nebraska has two National Champion Trees, the eastern cottonwood and the dwarf chinkapin oak. Yet we are convinced more national champions are waiting to be discovered in Nebraska. There are 4 species currently without state champions. You can help to correct this injustice by:

- Being on the lookout for potential champions
- Nominating big trees in your area
- Developing a Champion Tree Program for your community or county

The trees you plant are the "unsung" champions of Nebraska, working hard to improve our lives and our environment.

Scott Josiah,  
Extension Forester, UNL  
Christine Meyer,  
Communications Specialist  
and Champion Tree Coordinator, UNL

*"Champion Trees Don't Live Forever: Plant Tomorrow's Champion Today!"*



White Ash Champion  
Paul Henrichs  
Auburn, Neb.



White Poplar Champion  
Tom Kindler  
Fremont, Neb.



Blue Spruce Champion  
Chadron State College  
Chadron, Neb.

# Other Nebraska Champion Trees

## *Heritage Trees Nomination Form*

**Location of the Tree**

Please be precise. Specific directions or address:

**Owner**

Please note if the tree is on public or private property and give the name and address of the owner.

**Newspaper**

Please give the name and address of your local newspaper.

**Historical Society**

Please give the name and address of a local historical society.

**Other Questions**

If you are the tree owner, are you willing to collect seeds? Yes No

If No, would you allow a forestry representative to collect seeds? Yes No

**Any Additional Information**

Please note if there is a reference to the tree in literature or if a professional or historic photograph is available.

## *Nebraska Register of Champion Trees*

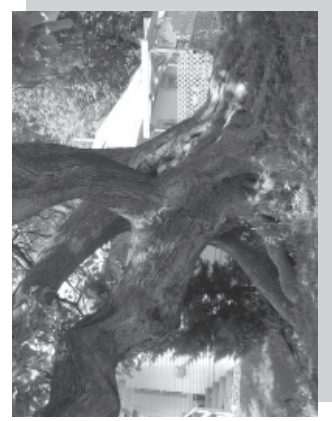
This register lists the largest trees of over 80 species identified in Nebraska. Most of the species are described in the Nebraska Cooperative Extension publication "Trees of Nebraska" (EC 92-1774). The name of the owner and nominator, size and location of each tree follow each listing.

Many people across Nebraska have worked hard to make this register as comprehensive and accurate as possible,

but the quest to find the largest trees in Nebraska is never over. Champion trees are by nature old, and old trees diminish and die. Larger trees are newly discovered. Thus, this list continually changes as new nominations are submitted. For the most up-to-date list, please see the Nebraska Champion Tree Web site at [www.nfs.unl.edu](http://www.nfs.unl.edu)

We look forward to working with you to recognize and celebrate these wonderful trees.

"Trees are the Earth's endless effort to speak to the listening heaven."  
Rabindranath Tagore



Northern Catalpa Champion  
Phil Pierce  
Omaha, Neb.

# Nebraska Champion Tree Register

(as of Feb. 1, 2004)

This Nebraska Champion Tree Register lists the most common native and introduced tree species in Nebraska. Most of the listed species are described in *Trees of Nebraska* (Nebraska Cooperative Extension EC 92-1774).

| Species   | Circumference | Ht. | Crown Spread | Total Points | Nominator                                       | Year Measured | Year Nominated | Owner & Tree Location   |
|---|---------------|-----|--------------|--------------|---|---------------|----------------|---|
| Arborvitae, American<br><i>Thuja occidentalis</i> | 8' 10"        | 25' | 31'          | 138          | Bob Leutenberger<br>Tecumseh, NE                | 2002          | 2002           | Nemaha Cemetery<br>Nemaha, NE   |
| Ash, Blue<br><i>Fraxinus quadrangulata</i>        | 11' 2"        | 73' | 74'          | 226          | Rod Edwards<br>Nebraska City, NE                | 2002          | 2002           | Charles Gude<br>403 S. 9th St.<br>Nebraska City, NE                     |
| Ash, Green +<br><i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>     | 16' 6"        | 93' | 84'          | 312          | Kay McKivergan<br>Ponca, NE                     | 2000          | 1986           | Kay McKivergan<br>3 Mi W of Ponca on Hwy. 12<br>58981 HWY 12            |
| Ash, White +<br><i>Fraxinus americana</i>         | 10' 5"        | 79' | 60'          | 219          | Bob Leutenberger<br>Tecumseh, NE                | 2002          | 2002           | Paul Henrichs<br>1406 H Street<br>Auburn, NE                            |
| Aspen, Quaking +<br><i>Populus tremuloides</i>    | 4' 6"         | 60' | 30'          | 121          | Steve Rasmussen<br>Norfolk, NE                  | 2000          | 2000           | Delbert Lieber<br>S. Sioux City, NE, NE/4 of NE/47<br>Sect 31, T29N R7E |
| Baldcypress<br><i>Taxodium distichum</i>          | 13' 0"        | 56' | 57' 9"       | 226          | Scott Josiah<br>Lincoln, NE                     | 2000          | 2000           | University of Nebraska-Lincoln<br>North end of Maxwell Arboretum        |
| Birch, European White<br><i>Betula pendula</i>    | 6' 3"         | 45' | 42'          | 131          | Steve Rasmussen<br>Pam Bergstrom<br>Norfolk, NE | 2002          | 2002           | John and Beth Ann Feller<br>409 Lambrecht St.<br>Beemer, NE             |
| Birch, Paper +<br><i>Betula papyrifera</i>        | 2' 2"         | 34' | 26'          | 67           | Stan Paczkowski<br>Lincoln, NE                  | 2003          | 2003           | Bryan LGH West<br>East parking lot at Bryan LGH                         |



| <i>Heritage Trees Nomination Form</i>   |  |
|---|--|
| Name of Nominator   |  |
| Address   |  |
| Phone Number  |  |
| Name of Tree Being Nominated (example: Lone Tree)   |  |
| Describe the Tree   |  |
| Species: Common Name  |  |
| Botanical Name  |  |
| Please explain why this is a heritage tree. If the tree is associated with/as a notable landmark, with a person or institution, or a historic event, please identify in detail. |  |

# The Nebraska Heritage Trees Program

The Nebraska Register of Heritage Trees provides an opportunity for every community across the state to participate by nominating a distinctive tree for the register. Many communities in Nebraska have extraordinary trees that grow at historic places, are at birthplaces of Nebraska's historic figures or places where legendary events occurred. Nominating a tree for the register provides the opportunity to celebrate Nebraska heritage.

Trees have stood watch over lives and events that represent the fabric of our state. Nebraskans are fortunate to have a rich and colorful historic heritage. By viewing the past through the unique perspective of trees, we hope this heritage will endure for future generations. It is the goal of the Heritage Tree Program to identify and recognize these trees and display their legacy in the Nebraska Register of Heritage Trees.

A tree may be eligible for the Nebraska Register of Heritage Trees if:

- The tree stands at the home of a person who played a role in Nebraska history as a leader, writer or other significant contributor;
- The tree stands at or near where an event occurred that affected Nebraska's development and its citizens.
- The tree was planted by an individual or group whose experience is of significance.
- The tree is illustrated in sketches, journals, photographs or writings, related to a historical event.

The Nebraska Register of Heritage Trees will be unique in that it will be a collection of trees that have served as living witnesses in the state of

Nebraska. The register will include tales, photographs and a journey into Nebraska's past through the special accounts of these living witnesses. All of Nebraska's Heritage Trees will be listed on the Nebraska Forest Service Web site at [www.nfs.unl.edu](http://www.nfs.unl.edu).

Anyone can nominate a tree for inclusion into Nebraska's Heritage Tree Program. If you know of a heritage tree that you would like to nominate for consideration as a Heritage tree, send a completed nomination and photograph to:

Coordinator; Heritage Tree Program  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
107 Plant Industry Building

P.O. Box 830814

Lincoln, NE 68583-0814

For more information call:

(402) 472-9869

Email: [cmeyers3@unl.edu](mailto:cmeyers3@unl.edu)



Hi Tree  
Omaha, Neb.

|   |         |     |        |     |  |      |      |  |
|---|---------|-----|--------|-----|--|------|------|--|
| Birch, River<br><i>Betula nigra</i>                     | 6' 0"   | 62' | 53'    | 147 | Stan Paczkowski<br>Lincoln, NE                   | 2002 | 2002 | 3401 W. Pershing Rd.<br>Front yard, Lincoln, NE  |
| Boxelder +<br><i>Acer negundo</i>                       | 12' 11" | 57' | 48'    | 224 | Jim Mischke<br>Ainsworth, NE                     | 1999 | 1997 | Jerry Johnson<br>4 N of Long Pine in farmstead   |
| Buckeye, Ohio +<br><i>Aesculus glabra</i>               | 8' 9"   | 58' | 62' 6" | 179 | Lewis Wilson<br>St. Edward, NE                   | 1999 | 1989 | Cedar Rapids Schools<br>408 W. Dayton, Cedar Rapids, NE  |
| Butternut<br><i>Juglans cinerea</i>                     | 5' 5"   | 55' | 40'    | 130 | Steve Rasmussen<br>John Filsinger<br>Norfolk, NE | 2000 | 2000 | City of Pierce<br>Gilman Park, 300' SE of pool   |
| Catalpa, Northern<br><i>Catalpa speciosa</i>            | 20' 0"  | 65' | 60'    | 320 | Phil Pierce<br>Omaha, NE                         | 2000 | 1995 | Lloyd Texley<br>4508 Burdette St., Omaha   |
| Cherry, Black +<br><i>Prunus serotina</i>               | 10' 2"  | 62' | 57'    | 198 | Bob Leutenberger<br>Tecumseh, NE                 | 2002 | 2001 | Jerry Patterson<br>Honey Creek School<br>1 S and 1 E of Peru                                     |
| Chestnut, American<br><i>Castanea dentata</i>           | 12' 4"  | 80' | 60'    | 243 | Rod Edwards<br>Nebraska City, NE                 | 2000 | 2000 | Nebraska Game & Parks Commission<br>Arbor Lodge State Park,<br>Nebraska City, NE, Chestnut Grove |
| Chokecherry +<br><i>Prunus virginiana</i>               | 4' 5"   | 45' | 20'    | 103 | Jeffrey Carstens                                 | 2003 | 2003 | St. John's Catholic Church<br>371 Skyway Drive<br>Lincoln, NE                                    |
| Coffeetree, Kentucky *+<br><i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>    | 10' 9"  | 68' | 72'    | 215 | Dennis Kuhn<br>Creston, NE                       | 1986 | 1986 | Walter Wahl<br>9 S, 1 W of Leigh   |
| Coffeetree, Kentucky *+<br><i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>    | 10' 2"  | 72' | 62'    | 210 | Jean Schulz<br>UNL-Lincoln, NE                   | 2002 | 2001 | University of Nebraska-Lincoln<br>Lincoln, NE  |
| Cottonwood, Eastern +<br><i>Populus deltoides</i>       | 36' 9"  | 85' | 108'   | 553 | Daryl Hackbart, DC<br>Milford, NE                | 2001 | 2001 | Daryl Hackbart, DC<br>2 S and 2 3/4 E of Seward<br>1/4 W of Matzke Hwy on Fletcher Rd            |
| Cottonwood, Narrowleaf +<br><i>Populus angustifolia</i> |         |     |        |     |  |      |      | NO CURRENT CHAMPION  |

| Species                               | Circumference | Ht. | Crown Spread | Total Points | Nominator                                       | Year Measured | Year Nominated | Owner & Tree Location   |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----|--------------|--------------|---|---------------|----------------|---|
| Crabapple *<br>Malus spp.             | 8' 11"        | 40' | 52'          | 160          | Gus Shires<br>Lincoln, NE                       | 1999          | 1984           | Tom Combs<br>13th & N St., Auburn, NE   |
| Crabapple *<br>Malus spp.             | 7' 7"         | 57' | 55'          | 162          | Steve Rasmussen<br>Gary Zimmer<br>Pierce, NE    | 2000          | 2000           | Metro Comm. College - Fort,<br>Omaha, West of Bldg. 10,<br>east side of parking lot |
| Elm, American +<br>Ulmus americana    | 19'           | 98' | 98'          | 350          | Joel Hansen<br>Todd Hoemann                     | 2003          | 2003           | Paul Leathers<br>414 West 2nd St.<br>Wayne, NE                                      |
| Elm, Red/Slippery<br>Ulmus rubra      | 17'           | 87' | 73'          | 309          | Steve Rasmussen<br>Joel Hansen                  | 2003          | 2003           | Bill Hornbeck<br>415 West 2nd Street, Wayne, NE                                     |
| Elm, Rock +<br>Ulmus thomasi          | 5' 1"         | 53' | 54'          | 128          | Barbara Peitzmeier<br>Bloomfield, NE            | 2002          | 2001           | Ponca State Park<br>Ponca, NE   |
| Elm, Siberian*<br>Ulmus pumila        | 16' 9"        | 89' | 74'          | 309          | Stanley & Jean Shavlik<br>Linwood, NE           | 2000          | 2000           | Stanley & Jean Shavlik<br>6 W. 3/4 N. & 1/4 W of Morse Bluff                        |
| Elm, Siberian*<br>Ulmus pumila        | 17'           | 88' | 66'          | 310          | Dan Dresselhaus<br>Lincoln, NE                  | 2003          | 2003           | University of Nebraska<br>40th and Holdrege St., Lincoln, NE                        |
| Fir, Concolor*<br>Abies concolor      | 11' 1"        | 40' | 40'          | 183          | Bruce Walker<br>Falls City, NE                  | 1999          | 1985           | Kenneth Rieger<br>4-1/2 E & 4-3/4 N of Falls City, NE,<br>east side of road         |
| Fir, Concolor*<br>Abies concolor      | 9' 6"         | 61' | 35'          | 184          | Bob and Carol Lynch<br>Omaha, NE                | 2004          | 2003           | 6100 Northern Hills Drive<br>Omaha, NE  |
| Fir, Douglas<br>Pseudotsuga menziesii | 9' 6"         | 65' | 46'          | 190          | Mark Rouw<br>Des Moines, IA                     | 2000          | 1995           | Nebraska Game & Parks Commission<br>Arbor Lodge State Park,<br>Nebraska City, NE    |
| Ginkgo *<br>Ginkgo biloba             | 12' 4"        | 52' | 63'          | 216          | Raymond Yost<br>Nebraska City, NE               | 1999          | 1981           | Raymond Yost<br>Nebraska City, NE   |
| Ginkgo *<br>Ginkgo biloba             | 10' 9"        | 70' | 50'          | 212          | NSA Curators<br>Nebraska Statewide<br>Arboretum | 2000          | 2000           | Joslyn Castle<br>Omaha Bldg. Education,<br>2902 Davenport St., Omaha, NE            |

## Champion Trees Nomination Form

Tree Species: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Tree owner: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Tree Nominator: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Tree Location: \_\_\_\_\_ miles \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ miles \_\_\_\_\_ of  
N or S E or W

(nearest town) (county)

(other location data; give as much detail as possible)

Circumference (at 4.5 feet from the ground) \_\_\_\_\_ feet,

\_\_\_\_\_ inches.

Total Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Average Crown Spread: \_\_\_\_\_  
(feet)

Official Measurements:

Circumference: \_\_\_\_\_ ft \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ points

Height: \_\_\_\_\_ ft \_\_\_\_\_ points

Crown Spread: \_\_\_\_\_ ft x 1/4 \_\_\_\_\_ points

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Checked By: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_

## To Submit a Nomination

Anyone can nominate a tree at any time for inclusion in Nebraska's Champion Tree Register. If you know of a large tree that you want to nominate for consideration as a Champion tree, please complete the nomination form as follows.

4. If a tree is close in size to the current champion, a forester or member of the Nebraska Community Forestry Council will visit the tree to confirm the species, and remeasure the tree to determine its official score.

1. Record the tree's measurements (directions on page 13).

2. Enclose three or four inches of twig (with leaves or needles if possible) and a photograph to aid in species identification.

3. Send the completed nomination form and sample to:

Coordinator, Champion Tree Program  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
107 Plant Industry Building  
P.O. Box 830814  
Lincoln, NE 68583-0814  
For more information call: (402) 472-9869  
email: cmeyer3@unl.edu

All champions and co-champions will be listed on the Nebraska Forest Service Champion Trees Web site at:

[www.nfs.unl.edu](http://www.nfs.unl.edu)



"Generations pass while some trees stand, and yet families last not three oaks."  
Robert Browning

Scotch Pine Champion  
Roger Weber  
Beatrice, Neb.

|  |        |     |       |     |   |      |      |  |
|--|--------|-----|-------|-----|---|------|------|--|
| Goldenrain tree<br><i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>        | 3'     | 27' | 52'   | 76  | Dan Peterson<br>Beatrice, NE                  | 2002 | 2000 | Ralph Fischer<br>523 N. 4th St., Beatrice, NE                              |
| Hackberry +<br><i>Celtis occidentalis</i>                | 16' 7" | 67' | 86'   | 288 | Mark Hyberger<br>Beatrice, NE                 | 2000 | 2000 | City of Beatrice, Chautauqua Park<br>Front section along Hwy 77            |
| Hawthorn<br><i>Crataegus</i> spp.                        | 3' 4"  | 28' | 36'   | 77  | Steve Rasmussen<br>Gary Johnson<br>Wayne, NE  | 2002 | 2002 | Gary Johnson<br>2 S and 2 W of Beemer, NE                                  |
| Hickory, Bitternut +<br><i>Carya cordiformis</i>         | 9' 10" | 89' | 68'   | 224 | Mark Rouw<br>Des Moines, IA                   | 2000 | 1995 | City of Nebraska City<br>Wyuka Cemetery, Nebraska City, NE                 |
| Hickory, Shagbark +<br><i>Carya ovata</i>                | 7' 5"  | 86' | 42'   | 186 | Dennis Adams<br>Lincoln, NE                   | 1980 | 1980 | Elm Tree Farms, Inc.<br>3 N of Barada near Indian Cave<br>State Park       |
| Honeylocust +<br><i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>            | 14' 6" | 85' | 63'   | 275 | Stan Paczkowski<br>Lincoln, NE                | 2002 | 2002 | Kathleen Foote<br>3256 Holdrege St., Lincoln, NE                           |
| Hopornbeam, Eastern +<br><i>Ostrya virginiana</i>        | 4' 0"  | 41' | 36'   | 98  | Pam Peterson<br>Beatrice, NE                  | 2000 | 2000 | Janice Schell<br>1 S, 3 E of Wymore, NE                                    |
| Horsechestnut<br><i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>           | 9' 3"  | 59' | 36'   | 179 | Phil Rzewnicki<br>West Point, NE              | 2000 | 1987 | Ken Hugo<br>731 N. Main Street, West Point, NE                             |
| Juniper, Rocky Mountain +<br><i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> | 13' 1" | 28' | 31.5' | 193 | Ray & Mathew Boice<br>Gering, NE              | 2000 | 1994 | Nebraska Game & Parks Commission<br>Buffalo Creek WMA near<br>Minatare, NE |
| Larch<br><i>Larix</i> spp.                               | 8' 7"  | 58' | 60'   | 176 | Dave Mooter<br>Omaha, NE                      | 1999 | 1981 | City of Omaha<br>Miller Park, Omaha, NE                                    |
| Linden, American +<br><i>Tilia americana</i>             | 20' 9" | 55' | 73'   | 322 | Jeff Hayes<br>Ellen Kohitz<br>6th Grade Class | 2001 | 2001 | Boone Central District #1<br>605 S. 6th Street<br>Albion, NE               |
| Locust, Black<br><i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>             | 15' 4" | 60' | 58'   | 302 | David Mooter<br>Omaha, NE                     | 2003 | 2003 | Duane Sprick<br>214 N. 14th St., Fort Calhoun, NE                          |
| Magnolia, Saucer<br><i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i>        | 5' 9"  | 32' | 34'   | 110 | Bob Leutenberger<br>Tecumseh, NE              | 2002 | 2001 | Bob McAdams<br>1005 5th St., Peru, NE                                      |



| Species   | Circumference | Ht.  | Crown Spread | Total Points | Nominator                        | Year Measured | Year Nominated | Owner & Tree Location  |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------|--|
| Maple, Amur<br><i>Acer ginnala</i>                              | 3' 4"         | 15'  | 26'          | 62           | Gary Zimmer<br>Pierce, NE        | 2002          | 2002           | City of Pierce<br>Gilman Park Arboretum<br>200 N. Mill St., Pierce, NE                                     |
| Maple, Norway<br><i>Acer platanoides</i>                        | 12' 6"        | 70'  | 77'          | 240          | Christine Meyer<br>Lincoln, NE   | 2002          | 2002           | Marna Porter<br>1565 South St., Blair, NE  |
| Maple, Red<br><i>Acer rubrum</i>                                | 8' 8"         | 75'  | 60'          | 194          | Rod Edwards<br>Nebraska City, NE | 2002          | 2002           | Nebraska Game & Parks Comm.,<br>Arbor Lodge State Park<br>Nebraska City, NE                                |
| Maple, Rocky Mountain +<br><i>Acer glabrum</i>                  | 1' 4"         | 16'  | 23.5'        | 38           | Doak Nickerson<br>Minatare, NE   | 1998          | 1998           | Nebraska Board of Educational<br>Lands & Funds<br>7 N and 13 E of Harrison, NE                             |
| Maple, Silver +<br><i>Acer saccharinum</i>                      | 22' 6"        | 100' | 119'         | 400          | George Pinkerton<br>Beatrice, NE | 2002          | 2000           | City of Beatrice, Chautauqua Park,<br>front of section 3, 110 yds N<br>of Grable Street                    |
| Maple, Sugar<br><i>Acer saccharum</i>                           | 12' 1"        | 56'  | 77'          | 220          | Bob Leuenberger<br>Tecumseh, NE  | 2002          | 2001           | James Grant, Jr.<br>703 14th St., Auburn, NE   |
| Mulberry, Red + or White<br><i>Morus rubra</i> ; <i>M. alba</i> | 21' 11"       | 49'  | 76'          | 331          | Jon & Ron Koranda<br>Wahoo, NE   | 2000          | 1978           | Rosemary Koranda<br>Oak Leaf Farm, 2 N & 3 E of<br>Wahoo, NE   |
| Oak, Black +<br><i>Quercus velutina</i>                         | 16' 9"        | 82'  | 72'          | 301          | Bruce Walker<br>Falls City, NE   | 2000          | 1980           | Rick Kuker<br>1 1/4 W, 1/2 S of Barada, Lat N.<br>40 degree, 12.869'; Lon W95,<br>36.014'                  |
| Oak, Bur +<br><i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>                         | 17' 1"        | 70'  | 90'          | 297          | Bob Leuenberger<br>Tecumseh, NE  | 2002          | 2002           | John Lambert<br>2 S and 1 E of Nemaha<br>N 40 degree 18.870'   |
| Oak, Chinkapin +<br><i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>                | 13' 1"        | 70'  | 67'          | 244          | Rod Edwards<br>Nebraska City, NE | 2000          | 2000           | Charles Gude<br>Nebraska City, NE, Rt 2, 75 S to<br>OPPD Rd, 2 E, 1.5 S, east side -<br>150 yds into woods |

8

## How Do You Measure a Potential Champ

To evaluate a potential champion tree, measure the tree circumference (distance around the trunk) at 4 1/2 feet above the ground, the vertical height and average width of the crown.

**Circumference:** Measure around the trunk (in inches) at a point 4 1/2 feet above the ground. If the tree is on a slope, measure 4 1/2 feet from the ground midslope. If a large swelling, branch or fork occurs at 4 1/2 feet above the ground, measure the smallest circumference below the obstruction. If the tree forks below 4 1/2 feet, measure the circumference of the largest single stem above the fork.

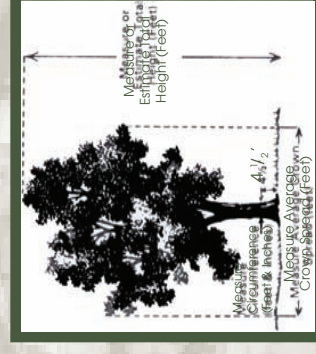
**Height:** You can use a yardstick to estimate height. First, measure 100 feet from the tallest part of the tree, preferably on the level. Next, hold the yardstick vertically 25 inches from your eye (about an arm's length). Sight along the zero-inch mark to the base of the tree. Then, read the inch mark that aligns with the tree top. This reading in inches multiplied by four gives you the tree's height in feet. A leaning tree's height is measured vertically from the ground to the top of the tree, not along the leaning trunk. Measure height to the nearest foot.

**Crown Spread:** Crown spread is the average width of widest and narrowest parts of the tree's crown. This measurement should be taken from one edge of the crown, through the tree's trunk to the opposite edge. Determine where the crown's edge is by hanging a weight from a string and sighting up the resulting vertical line. Move back and forth until the string lines up with the crown's edge. Measure the widest spread of the crown and the narrowest, then add them together and divide by 2.

**Calculating Total Points:** To figure a tree's total point score, assign one point for every inch of stem circumference, one point for each foot of height, and one-fourth point for each foot of average crown spread. The tree with the most points is the champion for that species. If the total points for two or more trees are within 2 percent of each other they will be declared co-champions.

Total points = circumference (inches) + height (feet) + average crown spread (feet)/4

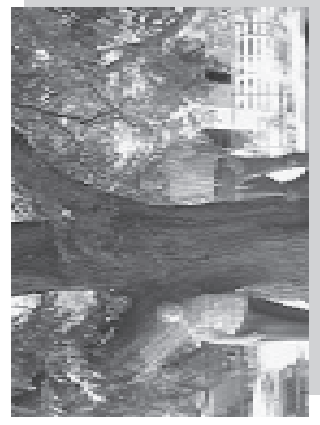
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Example: Tree Circumference (220") + Height (80 feet)} \\ + \text{Average Crown Spread } \frac{(120' + 80')}{2} = 100' \\ = (220 + 80) + 100 = 325 \text{ total points} \end{aligned}$$



| Species                                       | Circumference | Crown Spread | Total Points | Nominator                                     | Year Last Measured | Year Nominated | Owner & Tree Location  |
|---|---------------|--------------|--------------|---|--------------------|----------------|--|
| Tree of Heaven<br><i>Ailanthus altissima</i>  | 11' 6"        | 46'          | 208          | Stan Paczkowski<br>Lincoln, NE                | 2002               | 2002           | Lienemann Bldg., 1333 Plum St.,<br>Lincoln, NE   |
| Tuliptree *<br><i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> | 12' 6"        | 73'          | 227          | Jeffrey Troupe<br>Oakland, NE                 | 2000               | 1991           | Robert & DiAnne Blake<br>404 N. Osborn St., Oakland, NE  |
| Tuliptree *<br><i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> | 10' 6"        | 54'          | 223          | Christine Meyer<br>Lincoln, NE                | 2002               | 2002           | Nebraska Game & Parks Commission<br>Arbor Lodge State Park<br>Nebraska City, NE  |
| Walnut, Black +<br><i>Juglans nigra</i>       | 19' 1"        | 76'          | 322          | Richard Brader<br>Glenville, NE               | 2000               | 2000           | Richard Brader<br>1/2 W of Snowboat N. side Hwy. 74  |
| Willow, Black +<br><i>Salix nigra</i>         | 12' 10"       | 74'          | 247          | Steve Rasmussen<br>Wayne, NE                  | 2000               | 1988           | Lowell & Barbara Peitzmeier<br>4 N on 513 Ave. 20 E of O'Neill<br>on Co. Rd. 59, S. side bridge along<br>Verdigre Creek. |
| Willow, Weeping<br><i>Salix babylonica</i>    | 17' 2"        | 97'          | 318          | Steve Rasmussen &<br>Jerry Hardy<br>Wayne, NE | 1999               | 1988           | Bill Jeffers, San Francisco Golf<br>1st driveway on the west side of<br>Hwy 183, S. of Niobrara River                    |

\* Denotes Co-Champions (total points must be within 2 percent of each other).

+ Denotes tree native to Nebraska.



**Kentucky Coffeetree  
Champion**  
Mr. and Mrs. Walt Wahl  
Leigh, Neb.



**American Sycamore  
Champion**  
William Furnas,  
Brownville, Neb.

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|  |         |     |       |     |  |      |      |   |
|--|---------|-----|-------|-----|--|------|------|---|
| Oak, Dwarf Chinkapin +<br><i>Quercus prinoides</i> | 39"     | 25' | 20'   | 69  | Guy Sternberg<br>Justin Everson<br>Jim Locklear    | 2002 | 2001 | Bill Stalder<br>2 S and 1 W of Salem. On Rocky<br>Bluff, just S of Rock Creek in NW<br>part of NW 1/4 |
| Oak, English<br><i>Quercus robur</i>               | 12' 5"  | 55' | 50'   | 267 | David Burke<br>Omaha, NE                           | 1999 | 1985 | State of Nebraska<br>Joslyn Castle, Omaha, NE   |
| Oak, Northern Red **<br><i>Quercus rubra</i>       | 15' 6"  | 80' | 87'   | 288 | Stan Paczkowski<br>Lincoln, NE                     | 2002 | 2002 | University of Nebraska-Lincoln<br>NW Corner of 34th and Starr,<br>Lincoln, NE                         |
| Oak, Northern Red **<br><i>Quercus rubra</i>       | 15' 5"  | 85' | 80'   | 290 | Roger Moellendorf<br>Fremont, NE                   | 2000 | 1982 | Mark & Laurie Ferraina<br>1445 N. Nye St., Fremont, NE  |
| Oak, Pin<br><i>Quercus palustris</i>               | 15' 2"  | 80' | 85'   | 283 | Steve Watson<br>Omaha, NE                          | 2002 | 2002 | 5647 Florence Blvd., Front yard<br>Omaha, NE  |
| Oak, Shingle<br><i>Quercus imbricaria</i>          | 6' 2"   | 61' | 56'   | 149 | Stan Paczkowski<br>Lincoln, NE                     | 2003 | 2003 | NE Corner of Bessey Hall<br>UNL City Campus, Lincoln, NE  |
| Oak, Swamp White<br><i>Quercus bicolor</i>         | 10' 10" | 66' | 87'   | 218 | Cyril Bish<br>Lincoln, NE                          | 2000 | 1981 | Clay & Betty Whitehead<br>2500 Woodcrest St., Lincoln, NE   |
| Oak, White +<br><i>Quercus alba</i>                | 11' 3"  | 59' | 72'   | 212 | Mark Rouw<br>Des Moines, IA                        | 1999 | 1995 | Irma Meyer<br>1212 Chestnut St., Johnson, NE  |
| Osage Orange<br><i>Maclura pomifera</i>            | 17' 6"  | 57' | 76'   | 286 | Duane Hansen<br>Bob Brandt                         | 2003 | 2003 | Eva Davis, 5 miles SE and 1 mile E<br>of the sawmill on the E edge of<br>Table Rock, NE               |
| Pagoda Tree, Japanese<br><i>Sophora japonica</i>   | 9' 10"  | 79' | 39'   | 207 | Julie Hunting &<br>Kitty More<br>Nebraska City, NE | 2000 | 2000 | Nebraska Game & Parks Commission<br>Arbor Lodge State, Nebraska City, NE                              |
| Pawpaw +<br><i>Asimina triloba</i>                 |         |     |       |     | NO CURRENT CHAMPION                                |      |      |   |
| Pear, Ornamental<br><i>Pyrus calleryana</i>        | 3' 4"   | 33' | 39.5' | 83  | Bob Leuenberger<br>Tecumseh, NE                    | 2002 | 2001 | 1st Presbyterian Church<br>493 Broadway, Tecumseh, NE   |

| Species  | Circumference | Ht.  | Crown Spread | Total Points | Nominator                                     | Year Last Measured | Year Nominated | Owner & Tree Location  |
|--|---------------|------|--------------|--------------|---|--------------------|----------------|--|
| Pecan<br><i>Carya illinoensis</i>                                | 7' 2"         | 50'  | 55'          | 150          | George Pinkerton<br>Beatrice, NE              | 2000               | 2000           | Mrs. Bill Nies<br>504 Hoyt St., Beatrice, NE   |
| Persimmon<br><i>Diospyros virginiana</i>                         | 8' 0"         | 48'  | 49'          | 156          | Gerald Hopp<br>& Jerry Bucy<br>Falls City, NE | 1999               | 1987           | City of Falls City<br>Pioneer Park, W. 19th & Towle<br>Street, Falls City, NE                        |
| Pine, Austrian *<br><i>Pinus nigra</i>                           | 9' 9"         | 65'  | 53'          | 195          | Mark Rouw<br>Des Moines, IA                   | 2000               | 1995           | Floyd & Garnet Kreifels<br>1616 First Corso, Nebraska City, NE                                       |
| Pine, Austrian *<br><i>Pinus nigra</i>                           | 11' 0"        | 46'  | 52.5'        | 191          | Bill Bryant<br>Panama, NE                     | 2002               | 1986           | Bill Bryant<br>705 Locust St., Panama, NE  |
| Pine, Eastern White<br><i>Pinus strobus</i>                      | 11' 4"        | 80'  | 72'          | 233          | Mark Rouw<br>Des Moines, IA                   | 1999               | 1995           | City of Falls City<br>W. 21st St./ NE 8, Steele Cemetery<br>west of Falls City, NE                   |
| Pine, Jack<br><i>Pinus banksiana</i>                             | 5' 6"         | 46'  | 28'          | 119          | Steve Rasmussen<br>Norfolk, NE                | 2000               | 2000           | William A. & Molly Hobbs<br>Ewing, NE, NW/4 Sect 10,<br>Township 27N, Range 9W,<br>Holt County       |
| Pine, Limber +<br><i>Pinus flexilis</i>                          | 6' 0"         | 62'  | 42'          | 144.5        | Justin Everton<br>Lincoln, NE                 | 2002               | 2002           | City of Kimball<br>S side of City Park, Kimball, NE  |
| Pine, Pinyon<br><i>Pinus edulis</i>                              |               |      |              |              | NO CURRENT CHAMPION                           |                    |                |  |
| Pine, Ponderosa +<br><i>Pinus ponderosa</i>                      | 10' 6"        | 98'  | 53'          | 237          | Ed Eitel<br>Crawford, NE                      | 2000               | 2000           | Joe Bertagnolli<br>Naive Woodland, 2 N, 7 1/2 E of<br>Harrison, NE                                   |
| Pine, Scotch<br><i>Pinus sylvestris</i>                          | 14' 1"        | 52'  | 72' 6"       | 239          | Mark Hyberger<br>Beatrice, NE                 | 2000               | 1988           | Roger Weber, backyard<br>1300 Jefferson Street, Beatrice, NE   |
| Poplar, Balsam<br><i>Populus balsamifera</i>                     |               |      |              |              | NO CURRENT CHAMPION                           |                    |                |  |
| Poplar, White (Silver)<br><i>Populus alba</i>                    | 16' 5"        | 115' | 89'          | 334          | Roger Moellendorf<br>Fremont, NE              | 2002               | 1981           | Tom Kindler<br>423 W. 11th St., Fremont, NE  |
| Redbud, Eastern +<br><i>Cercis canadensis</i>                    | 5' 9"         | 32'  | 33'          | 109          | Bob Leutenberger<br>Tecumseh, NE              | 2002               | 2001           | Dave and Susan Adams<br>200 California, Peru, NE   |
| Redcedar, Eastern +<br><i>Juniperus virginiana</i>               | 9' 1"         | 71'  | 34'          | 189          | Bob Leutenberger<br>Tecumseh, NE              | 2000               | 1996           | Bill Hauptman, Peru, NE,<br>From Julian Corner<br>Hwy 75, 1 N to Road "R", 2 E,<br>SW corner of yard |
| Russian Olive<br><i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>                   | 11'           | 49'  | 39'          | 191          | Joe Cervantes<br>Alliance, NE                 | 1999               | 2000           | Greg Williams<br>1/2 S and 6 1/2 W of Marsland, NE   |
| Spruce, Colorado Blue<br><i>Picea pungens</i> var. <i>glauca</i> | 9' 8"         | 68'  | 40'          | 194          | Tony Hudson<br>Chadron, NE                    | 2001               | 2001           | Chadron State College<br>N of Administration Building  |
| Spruce, Norway<br><i>Picea abies</i>                             | 12' 3"        | 79'  | 55'          | 240          | David Feder<br>Plattsmouth, NE                | 2000               | 1998           | Nebraska Masonic Home<br>14th St. and Ave C., Plattsmouth, NE  |
| Spruce, White<br><i>Picea glauca</i>                             | 4' 3"         | 58'  | 21'          | 114          | Bob Leutenberger<br>Tecumseh, NE              | 2002               | 2001           | City of Peru, Neal Park<br>E of sidewalk near entrance   |
| Sweetgum<br><i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>                       | 5' 4"         | 74'  | 31'          | 146          | Mark Rouw<br>Des Moines, IA                   | 2000               | 1995           | Nebraska Game & Parks Commission<br>Arbor Lodge State Park, Nebraska<br>City, NE                     |
| Sycamore, American +<br><i>Platanus occidentalis</i>             | 18' 1"        | 88'  | 112'         | 333          | Neal Jennings<br>Lincoln, NE                  | 1999               | 1980           | William Furnas<br>1 W, 1/4 S of Brownville, NE   |

Champion Gingko  
Raymond Yost  
Nebraska City, Neb.



"Trees are the most conspicuous members of a forest community, for by their form and their height they provide the overriding influence on all other species which exist beneath."  
Carl Wolfe