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TWELVE BROADLEAF *Trees* FOR NEBRASKA

EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, LINCOLN
AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COOPERATING

Twelve Broadleaf Trees for Nebraska

EARL G. MAXWELL

Extension Forester
Nebraska Agricultural Extension Service

The 12 broadleaf species described in this circular are among those which have been most commonly distributed to farmers by the Agricultural Extension Service under provision of the Clarke-McNary Act.

Drawings of twigs and leaves used in this circular were provided through the courtesy of the publishers and authors of the following publications: *Forest Trees of Missouri,* Missouri Conservation Bulletin No. 20, State of Missouri Conservation Commission; *Michigan Trees,* by Charles H. Otis, University of Michigan, 1913; *Handbook of Nebraska Trees,* by Raymond J. Pool, Conservation and Survey Division Bulletin 7, University of Nebraska, Second Edition, May 1929; and *Trees in Kansas,* Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, June 1928 (Part II, by Frank C. Gates).

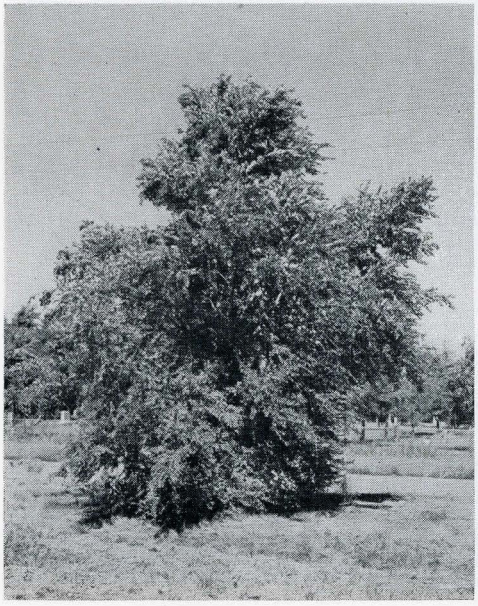
Distributed in furtherance of Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914. Extension Service of the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture, the U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating. W. V. Lambert, Director, Lincoln, Nebraska. (9-50-10M)

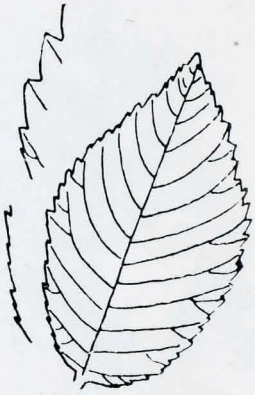
CHINESE ELM

Chinese elm is a fast-growing, drouth-resistant tree, often making four feet height growth and one inch trunk diameter growth in a season. It has so far been comparatively free from insect pests and disease. It is tolerant to alkali and is least affected by chlorosis (yellowing of the foliage as a result of lack of available iron) of any of the broadleaf trees commonly used.

It is adapted throughout the State but tends to continue growth late in the season, especially in irrigated sections, and for this reason may sometimes fail to harden up sufficiently to withstand winter temperatures. This results in more or less winter injury.

The best use of Chinese elm is in windbreak planting. It is desirable for interior rows of a multiple-row windbreak. Chinese elm should be allowed to grow naturally and should not be trimmed up at the base.

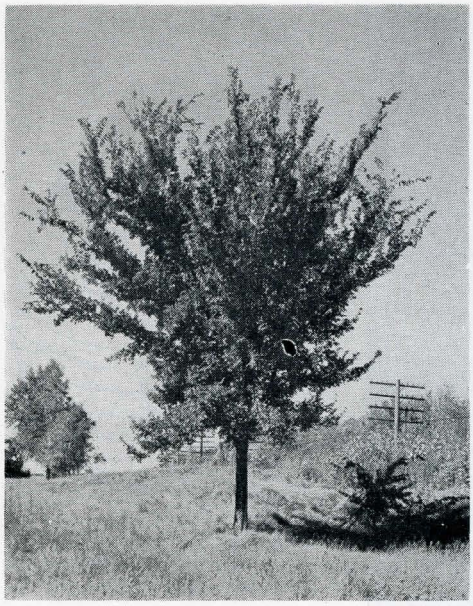


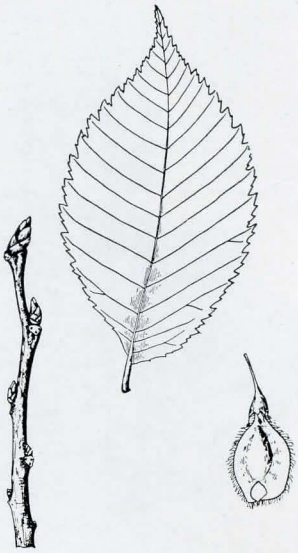


AMERICAN or WHITE ELM

American or white elm is a native tree throughout Nebraska and has long been considered one of our most desirable trees for lawn and street planting. It is often included with other species in farm windbreaks. The presence of the European elm scale south of the Platte River and west of Grand Island and Hebron is a real menace to this species and makes its planting in that area somewhat questionable.

It is a tall-growing tree but often lacks density at the ground level. If used in multiple-row windbreaks, it should be planted in interior rows. It should be planted only where there is ample moisture, where there is a high water table, or where irrigation is possible. It is generally best adapted to the eastern third of the State.





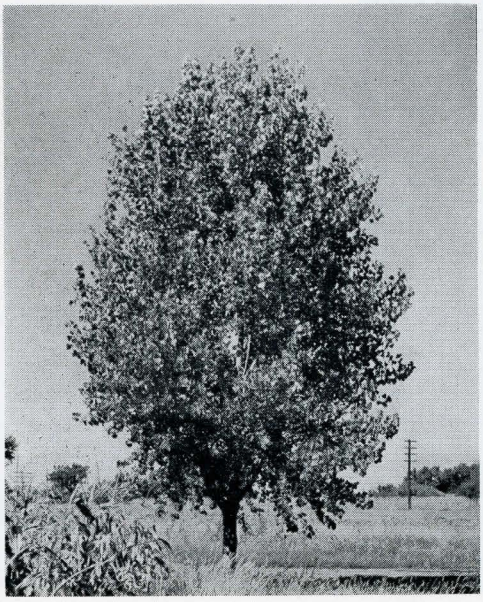
COTTONWOOD

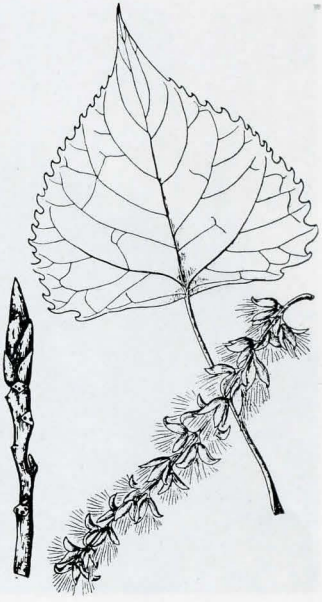
Cottonwood is a fast-growing tree and because of this appeals to many today as it did to the early settlers for planting in groves and windbreaks.

It thrives best in moist situations as along streams or where there is a high water table. It is a good tree to include in livestock shelter plantings in the Sandhills.

In favorable situations it will provide wind protection in a relatively short time and will produce saw timber in about 20 years.

It is suitable for planting single- or double-row field windbreaks, for interior rows of multiple-row windbreaks, and in groves for livestock shelters, and for lumber production where there is more than an average amount of soil moisture.



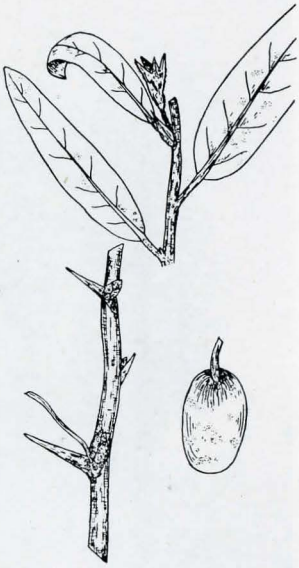


RUSSIAN OLIVE

Although not a native, Russian olive has been planted quite extensively in Nebraska. It has generally given good satisfaction for windbreak planting. It is subject to some winter injury on the more difficult sites in northwestern Nebraska.

It is a medium-sized, relatively low bushy tree not unlike Russian mulberry. It is suitable for planting an outside row in a windbreak. Its wealth of silvery gray foliage gives a pleasing contrast of color with that of the green of other trees.

When planted in a row with plants one foot apart and kept sheared, it makes a desirable low hedge.



RUSSIAN MULBERRY

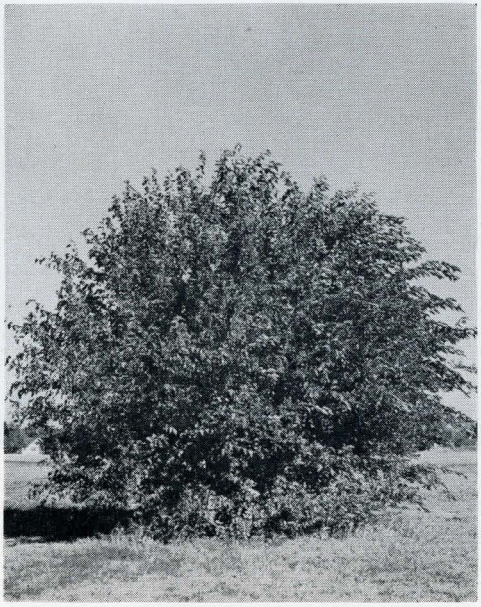
Russian mulberry is a medium-size, relatively low bushy tree, usually with a spread of limbs that fully equals its height. The wood is hard, heavy, and very durable in contact with the soil.

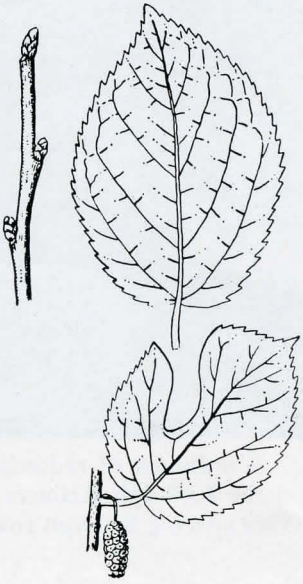
Some of the leaves are entire and others lobed. Both usually occur on the same tree.

The fruits may be either purple or white when ripe. They are edible and are relished by birds.

It makes a rapid growth on favorable sites but is subject to killing back in the winters in the western part of the State.

Its low dense growth makes it desirable for outside rows in farmstead windbreaks and for single-row field shelterbelts.





Windbreak of redcedar, honeylocust, hackberry, and Chinese elm on the Rudolph Reimers farm northeast of Ogallala (Keith County). Wide spacing between rows and rounded corners facilitate cultivation.