

1974

EC74-1210 Shade and Flowering Trees

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Shade and Flowering Trees

Extension Service

University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Agriculture Cooperating with the
U.S. Department of Agriculture and the College of Home Economics

J. L. Adams, Director

SHADE and FLOWERING TREES^{1/}

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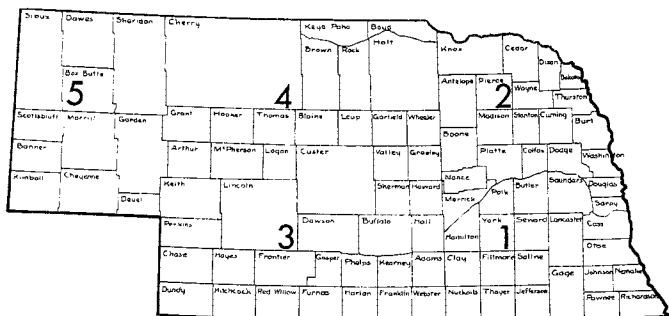
This list has been prepared to help you select kinds of trees reasonably certain to succeed in your area. The regions for which they are recommended are given with each kind. The extent of each region is shown on the map on the following page.

Although many plants may be found growing outside recommended areas, their success in such places is generally due to exceptionally favorable sites or superior care.

The average grower should confine his main plantings to species that are known to be adapted. It is always interesting to try new things, but try new plants in a small way and expect the worst until they prove themselves to be adapted. Many of the plants listed require good care, including supplemental water, in order to thrive.

Zones shown on the map indicate large areas in which certain groups of trees and shrubs may be planted with reasonable assurance of success. These large zones differ in temperature, rainfall, elevation, or soil type. Within all zones there are small local areas where environmental conditions may be more severe or more favorable than average. These small areas may differ from their surrounding zones in soil type, fertility, moisture supply, or exposure.

^{1/} The plants recommended in this list were selected in cooperation with representatives of the Nebraska Association of Nurserymen.



Woody plant species serve the following purposes:

1. Landscape development. Woody plants are the basic permanent materials in every landscape planting. Each plant should serve a distinct purpose and hence should be chosen for its mature size, shape, and other growth characteristics.

2. Comfort. Man and beast enjoy the comfort provided by shade trees and the protection from winds which comes from properly constituted and located windbreaks and shelterbelts. These make Nebraska a better, more comfortable place in which to live.

3. Conservation. The soil saving effects of woody plants are widely appreciated. Plantings made now will benefit future generations. Wild life is also encouraged and protected by plantings, particularly of the shrubby type.

4. Decorative effect. Greenness is always restful and the varying texture of foliage adds interest. Colorful blossoms, berries, foliage and twigs are useful in developing landscape effect.

5. Community pride. A well planted home or community attracts favorable attention and serves as a stimulus to further neighborhood development.

6. Financial reward. An effective windbreak improves the value of a farm and a well planned landscape planting around the residence increases the desirability and value of any home.

7. Personal satisfaction. Many homeowners or members of their families develop special interests in particular plant species. Relaxation comes through working with living things. Where inclination leads and space permits, woody species may be the type chosen.

DECIDUOUS BROADLEAF TREES

Shade Trees

<u>Species</u>	<u>Recommended for Regions</u>
Birch, Cutleaf Weeping (<u>Betula alba pendula</u> <u>laciniata</u>) 30 - 40 feet	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Deeply cut leaves, drooping branches, silvery-white bark. May winterkill in dry years. Very subject to attack by borers if weakened by drouth or heat.	
European - Betula Alba	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Leaves entire, branches upright, Bark silvery-white. May winterkill in dry years. Subject to borers in dry, hot years.	

Elm

American (Ulmus americana) 60 - 100 feet 1,2,3,4,5

The most widely planted shade tree. Wide spreading, arching branches. Plant with caution because of Phloem necrosis, Dutch Elm Disease and European elm scale. Caution: Do not plant in solid blocks!

Moline (Ulmus americana Moline) 60 - 100 feet 1,2,3,4,5

Variety of American elm. Narrow, pyramidal, rapid-growing tree, subject to the same pests as the American.

Chinese (Ulmus pumila) 40 - 50 feet 1,2,3,4,5

Rapid growing, quite drouth resistant. Not recommended as a lawn tree except in the drier portions of the state. Chlorosis resistant.

Hybrid Elm Varieties 1,2,3,4,5

Resistant to Phloem necrosis and Dutch Elm Disease.

Ginkgo (Ginkgo biloba) 1,2,3
60 feet.

A "living fossil."
Attractive foliage of
fan-shaped leaves,
quite different from
common broadleaf
trees. The foul-
smelling fruit is pro-
duced only if male and
female trees are plant-
ed near each other.
Slow growing.

Green Ash (Fraxinus 1,2,3,4,5
pennsylvanica lanceolata)
50 - 60 ft.

Shapely round-headed
tree with slender,
spreading branches.

Marshalls Seedless Green 1,2,3,4,5
Ash

A clean tree for lawn
plantings as it does
not produce seed.
(Propagated from a
selection made by
Marshalls Nursery)

Honeylocust (Gleditsia 1,2,3,4,5
traicanthos) 40 - 60 feet

Light shade cast by
relatively thin foliage
makes this excellent
for lawns. Podless and
thornless selections are
now available. Drouth
resistant. Moraine or
Beatrice are good
varieties. Chlorosis
resistant.

Hackberry (Celtis 1,2,3,4,5
Occidentalis) 50 - 60 feet

Good street tree, but
relatively slow grow-
ing. Berries provide
food for birds. Drouth
resistant.

Kentucky Coffeetree 1,2,3,4,5
(Gymnocladus dioicus)
40 feet

Very hardy. Wide,
flat pods hang on
all winter.

Linden - All drouth resistant.

American (Tilia 1,2,3,4,5
americana) 75 - 100 feet

Spreading tree, large
leaves, fragrant flowers
in the spring.

Little Leaf (Tilia 1,2,3,4,5
Cordata) 65 feet

Little leaf has smaller
leaves and is also a
smaller tree than
American.

Redmond (Tila 1,2,3,4,5
euchlora Redmond)
65 feet

Pyramidal linden,
excellent shape.
(Propagated from
selection made by
Plumfield Nursery.

Maple

Amur Maple (Acer 1,2,3,4,5
ginnala)

Small tree or tall
shrub (Satall Shrub)

Norway (Acer 1,2
platanoides) 60 feet

Round-headed tree
makes dense shade.
Trunks of young trees
subject to sunscald
can be wrapped.

Schwedler (Acer 1,2
platanoides Schwedleri)
50 - 60 feet

Same as Norway but
foliage is red in spring,
becoming reddish-
green in summer.

Soft (Acer saccharum) 1,2,3,4,5
60 - 80 feet

Rapid growing, not
very long-lived. Plant
in moist locations.
Various varieties, such
as Blair and Cutleaf,
are available. Subject
to ice storm damage
unless properly shaped.

Sugar (Acer saccharum) 1,2
50 - 70 feet

Leaves turn bright
orange or scarlet in
autumn.

Oak

Pin (Quercus 1,2
palustris) 70 - 80 feet

Pyramidal form, rapid growth. Foliage turns orange-scarlet in fall. Very susceptible to chlorosis.

Red (Quercus rubra) 1,2
70 - 80 feet

Good city tree, resistant to smoke; rapid grower.

Bur (Quercus 1,2,3,4,5
macrocarpa) 70 - 80 feet

Wide spreading, massive tree.

Poplar

White (Populus alba) 4,5
60 feet

Leaves lobed, white beneath. Sometimes mistaken for maple. Suckers badly on moist soil.

Other species and 1,2,3,4,5
varieties, including cottonwood.

Some are wide spreading trees, others such as Lombardy and Bolles are narrow and upright.

Russian-olive (Elaeagnus 1,2,3,4,5
angustifolia) 20 - 25 feet

Silvery-gray leaves,
grayish-white berries.
Chlorosis resistant.

Sycamore (Platanus 1,2,3,4
occidentalis) 75 feet

Bark smooth, colored
olive-green to almost
white on young parts
but flaking off from old
trunk.

FLOWERING TREES

The trees in this group are grown more
for their flowers or fruits than for shade.
Those marked "tender," although apt to
suffer winter damage occasionally, are in-
teresting enough to justify planting in spite
of occasional loss.

Tuliptree (Liriodendron 1
tulipifera) 80 feet

Orange-yellow flowers
in spring the size and
shape of tulips. These
furnish a good source
of nectar for bees.

Willow, Golden Weeping 1,2,3,4,5
(Salix: Niobe) 30 - 35 feet

Weeping form with
light green leaves
and golden-yellow
bark.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Recommended for regions</u>
Chinese Pagoda-tree (<u>Sophora japonica</u>) Tender, 25 feet	1, 2, 3
Long panicles of yellowish-white flowers in late summer. Used occasionally for variety.	
Flowering Crab (<u>Malus</u> species) 10 - 25 feet	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
White, pink, or red blossoms in spring, some species with ornamental fruit large enough to use.	
Flowering Dogwood (<u>Cornus florida</u>) Tender, 15 feet	1
Shrub-like, large single white flowers, red fruit. Foliage turns various shades of red in the fall.	
Flowering Plum (<u>Prunus</u> species) 8 - 18 feet	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Pink flowers in the spring. Several species and varieties are available.	
Goldenrain-tree (<u>Koelreuteria paniculata</u>) Tender, 35 feet	1, 2, 3, 4
Yellow flowers in broad, loose panicles in the summer.	

Hawthorn (Crataegus 1,2,3,4,5
species) 15 - 30 feet

Many species and
varieties. Flowers
in the spring. Orange
or red fruits in the
fall.

Mountain Ash (Sorbus 1,2,5
americana) Tender, 25 feet

Clusters of bright
orange-red fruits in
the fall. Sunscalds
in exposed locations.

Magnolia (Magnolia 1
soulangiana) 20 feet

Tender in other areas.
Large pink and white
blossoms in early
spring.

Redbud (Cercis 1,2,3,4
canadensis) 30 feet

Pink, pea-like
flowers in spring
before leaves
appear. Does best
in a protected
location.

Tree Lilac (Syringa 1,2,3,4,5
amurensis japonica) 25 feet

Large clusters of
small white flowers
in June.