

PIN OAK

Quercus palustris

Aka Pin oak, Spanish oak, swamp oak



Description: A member of the red oak group. The crown is pyramidal and profusely branched. The trunk is tall and straight, often with persistent dead branches, and covered with a grayish brown, rather smooth bark. Lower branches usually droop. Pin oak bears acorns that are brown with mahogany-red streaks.

Natural Habitat: Swamps, moist bottomland soils, often in floodplains.

Size: 70 ft. tall, 45 ft wide

Growth Rate: Fast

Light: Sun

Planting and Care: This oak is tolerant of saturated and heavy soils. Particularly large acorn (mast) crops are produced every 2-4 years or so. Acorns should be planted in fall for spring germination.

Ornamental Value: The foliage turns rusty red-brown in the fall and persists well into the winter.

Landscape Usage: Shade, lawn trees and on campuses and in industrial parks.

Commercial/Traditional Uses: Fence posts, shingles and clapboards and in general construction.

Wildlife Benefits: Very valuable food source for wildlife, especially ducks, but also for deer, squirrels, turkeys and bears.