

Carya illinoensis

(Pecan, Papershell Pecan)

Though primarily known for its sweet pecans, this large deciduous tree from eastern and southern North America and Mexico also has ornamental virtues. It is a tall, beautiful tree with attractive compound leaves, a tall straight trunk and furrowed, gray-brown to brown-black bark. Many cultivars have been selected for flavor, hardiness, earliness of ripening, and other characteristics.

Trees generally take from 15 to 20-years before they are fruit-bearing. Harvest takes place very late in the fall season, and the larger the tree the more prolific its nut production. Pecans have smooth, woody, oblong shells that are sandy brown in color. When cracked they bear oblong, ribbed nutmeats that are sweet and flavorful. These taste best when lightly toasted.

Pecan is a bottomland tree and likes full to part sun and moist, rich, slightly acidic soil with average drainage. Transplanting can be difficult because of its long taproot. Plant both an early-pollen (type 1) and a late-pollen (type 2) cultivar for highest yield. Use as a crop or shade tree.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

<b>French Name:</b> Noix de Pécan
<b>Arabic Name:</b> جوز البقان
<b>Pronunciation:</b> KAIR-yuh il-ih-no-in-EN-sis
<b>Plant Type:</b> Tree
<b>Origin:</b> United States, Mexico
<b>Heat Zones:</b> 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
<b>Hardiness Zones:</b> 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
<b>Uses:</b> Specimen, Shade, Edible

Size/Shape

<b>Growth Rate:</b> Moderate
<b>Tree Shape:</b> Spreading
<b>Canopy Symmetry:</b> Irregular
<b>Canopy Density:</b> Dense
<b>Canopy Texture:</b> Medium
<b>Height at Maturity:</b> Over 23
<b>Spread at Maturity:</b> Over 15 meters
<b>Time to Ultimate Height:</b> 10 to 20 Years

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Flower Image

### Botanical Description

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#### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Alternate

**Leaf Venation:** Pinnate

**Leaf Persistence:** Deciduous

**Leaf Type:** Even Pinnately compound

**Leaf Blade:** 30 - 50

**Leaf Shape:** Lanceolate

**Leaf Margins:** Serrate

**Leaf Textures:** Medium

**Leaf Scent:** No Fragrance

**Color(growing season):** Green

**Color(changing season):** Yellow

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#### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True

**Flower Size Range:** 1.5 - 3

**Flower Type:** Spike

**Flower Sexuality:** Monoecious (Bisexual)

**Flower Scent:** No Fragrance

**Flower Color:** Green, Yellow

**Seasons:** Spring

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#### Trunk

**Trunk Has Crownshaft:** False

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Generally resists breakage

**Number of Trunks:** Single Trunk

**Trunk Esthetic Values:** Fissured

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#### Fruit

**Fruit Type:** Nut

**Fruit Showiness:** True

**Fruit Size Range:** 3 - 7

**Fruit Colors:** Brown

**Seasons:** Summer, Fall

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Leaf Image

### Horticulture Management

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Loam

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Neutral

**Water Requirements:** Moderate

**Light Requirements:** Full

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#### Management

**Toxity:** No

**Invasive Potential:** No

**Pruning Requirement:** Needed, to develop a strong structure

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** Yes

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** More than 50

**Diseases:** Scab

**Edible Parts:** Fruit

**Pests:** Aphids

**Plant Propagations:** Seed, Cutting, Grafting

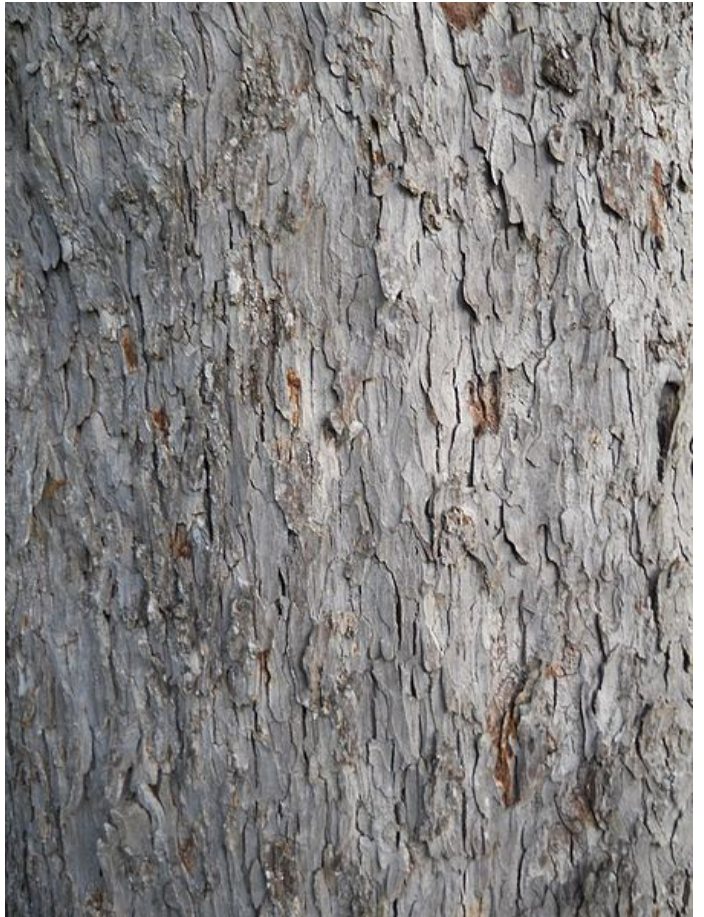
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## MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image