Oak, Bur

Quercus macrocarpa



Oak, Bur
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 70 feet

Spread: 60 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 2b

Other Names: Mossycup Oak

Description:

The hardiest of the oaks, this shade tree is singularly majestic, with its picturesque wide-spreading habit of growth and gnarled branches, best for larger landscapes; extremely tough and adaptable and moderate growing, plant for future generations

Ornamental Features

Oak, Bur has dark green deciduous foliage on a tree with an oval habit of growth. The glossy lobed leaves turn coppery-bronze in fall. However, the fruit can be messy in the landscape and may require occasional clean-up. The furrowed black bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.



Oak, Bur in fall
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Oak, Bur is a deciduous tree with a shapely oval form. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds and squirrels to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Oak, Bur is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Shade

Planting & Growing

Oak, Bur will grow to be about 70 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 60 feet. It has a high canopy of foliage that sits well above the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live to a ripe old age of 300 years or more; think of this as a heritage tree for future generations!

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. This plant should be periodically fertilized throughout the active growing season with a specially-formulated acidic fertilizer. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America.



Oak, Bur
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Clean up Rating (1-5) 1=least effort 5=most effort

Clean Up Rating (3): Bur Oak starts producing acorns about 35 years of age. The acorns are about 1 inch and can take up to 3 years to mature. The leaves can stay on the tree well into winter. Clean up by blowing or raking everything onto the lawn and mow or bag.