



pin oak

Quercus palustris

Kingdom: Plantae
Division/Phylum: Anthophyta - flowering plants
Class:
Order:
Family:

FEATURES

The pin oak tree may grow to a height of 75 feet. Its lower branches droop. The bark is light or dark brown with little furrowing. The leaves are simple, up to seven inches long and divided more than one-half way to the middle into five to seven lobes, each tipped with a bristle. Leaves are arranged alternately along the branch. Male flowers are located on slender, drooping spikes. Female flowers are in clusters. The flowers are small, with male and female flowers separate but on the same tree. The pale brown acorns grow in clusters of one to four and are up to one-half inch wide. The acorn cap encloses less than one-fourth of the acorn.

BEHAVIORS

The pin oak grows in floodplain woods, along streams, at the edges of swamps and near ponds. This tree flowers from April through May. Its acorns are a good source of food for many species of wildlife.

HABITATS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bottomland forests | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> rivers & streams |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lakes, ponds & reservoirs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> swamps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Michigan | <input type="checkbox"/> temp water supplies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> marshes | <input type="checkbox"/> wet prairies & fens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> peatlands | |

ILLINOIS STATUS

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> common | <input type="checkbox"/> endangered | <input type="checkbox"/> threatened |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> native | <input type="checkbox"/> exotic | |

ILLINOIS RANGE

statewide

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.
Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume I: Aquatic Habitats CD-ROM.