



Ohio buckeye

Aesculus glabra

Kingdom: Plantae
Division/Phylum: Anthophyta
Class:
Order:
Family:

FEATURES

The Ohio buckeye is a deciduous tree that may grow to 55 feet tall. It has a trunk diameter of up to 15 inches. Its rounded crown and gray bark with deep furrows are distinctive. Buds are ovoid, pointed, red-brown to yellow and up to two-thirds inch long. The leaves are arranged opposite each other on the stems. Each leaf is palmately compound with five or seven leaflets. The leaflets are pointed at the tip and up to six inches long. Each leaflet is toothed around the edges, green and smooth above and green or whitened below. The yellow-green flowers bloom in large clusters, sometimes more than one foot long. The brown fruit is nearly spherical. It is covered with prickles and contains one smooth, large seed.

BEHAVIORS

The Ohio buckeye grows in rich woods in the southern two-thirds of Illinois. It flowers in April and May. The wood may be used for paper pulp. This tree is sometimes grown as an ornamental.

HABITATS

- bottomland forests
- coniferous forest
- southern Illinois lowlands
- upland deciduous forest

ILLINOIS STATUS

- common
- endangered
- threatened
- native
- exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: southern 2/3

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.
Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume 2: Woodland Habitats CD-ROM.