



Shumard's oak

Quercus shumardii

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

FEATURES

Shumard's oak is also known as the southern red oak or Schneck's oak. This deciduous tree may attain a height of 120 feet and a trunk diameter of five feet. The crown is broad and open. The dark brown bark is ridged. Buds are smooth, red-brown and about one-third inch long. The simple leaves are arranged alternately along the stem. Each leaf may be eight inches long. The leaf is straight across or wedge-shaped at the base. Two to four pairs of lobes are divided over two-thirds of the way to the mid-vein of the leaf. The lobes are toothed and bristle-pointed at the tip. The leaf is dark green and shiny above with white tufts of hair in the vein axils below. The leafstalk grows to about two and one-half inches. Male and female flowers are separate but located on the same tree. Male (staminate) flowers develop in a catkin. Female (pistillate) flowers grow solitary or in groups of two to three. The fruit is a light brown acorn that ripens in October of its second year. The egg-shaped acorn is usually single and on a stalk of less than one-fourth inch. At maturity it is about one and one-fourth inches long. The cup covers about one-fourth to one-third of the acorn.

BEHAVIORS

Shumard's oak may be found in the southern one-third of Illinois plus McLean County. It grows in low woods and along stream banks. Flowering occurs from April through May. The wood is used for interior finishing and for making furniture.

HABITATS

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

ILLINOIS STATUS

- common
- endangered
- threatened
- native
- exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: southern 1/3

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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