



THE NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM PRESENTS

NUT TREES FOR NEBRASKA

Justin Evertson. For more plant information, visit plantnebraska.org

1. **Beech, American & European** - *Fagus grandiflora* & *F. sylvatica* -- Attractive smooth bark; needs fertile, moist soil; small nuts; 40'x 30'.
2. **Buckeye, Ohio** – *Aesculus glabra* -- Native; tough & adaptable; 'buckeye' fruit enclosed in spiny husks: great for wildlife but not edible; 30'x 30'.
3. **Buckeye, Yellow** - *Aesculus flava* -- Overlooked shade tree; smooth fruit capsule; nice yellow-orange fall color; 40'x 30'.
4. **Butternut** – *Juglans cinerea* – Related to walnut; almost native (didn't jump the Missouri River); sweet nuts but prone to a blight disease; 40'x30'.
5. **Chestnut, American** - *Castanea dentata* – A once dominant tree of eastern US, now prone to disease and short-lived; 65'x40'.
6. **Chestnut, Chinese** - *Castanea mollissima* – Shorter, rounded and often multi-stemmed; more reliable than American chestnut; often has prolific large nuts enclosed in very spiny capsules; 35'x 30'.
7. **Filbert, Turkish** - *Corylus colurna* – Underused shade tree, pyramidal in youth becoming rounded; edible nuts if you can find them; good winter interest with catkins and scaly bark; 45'x 35'.
8. **Hazelnut, American** – *Corylus americana* -- A shrubby species native to Neb and eastern US; good fruit production on young stems in the sun; edible for humans and wildlife; apricot fall color; grows up to 15'x10'. Several other hybrid species of hazelnut are worth trying.
9. **Hickory, Bitternut** - *Carya cordiformis* – Our most common native hickory; sulphur-yellow buds; good urban tolerance; makes an outstanding shade tree and deserves to be planted more; nut is bitter even to squirrels; 40'x 30'.
10. **Hickory, Mockernut** - *Carya tomentosa* -- Dark gray bark with furrowed, diamond pattern; "Mockernut" refers to nut meat that is hard to extract – thus "mocking" us; beautiful deep yellow fall color; grow for shade and wildlife; 35'x 30'.
11. **Hickory, Shagbark** - *Carya ovata* – Native to SE NE; shaggy bark forms on mature trees; handsome, clean foliage turns yellow in fall; prefers moist, fertile soil; transplant when small; 50'x45'.
12. **Hickory, Shellbark** - *Carya laciniosa* – Very similar to *C. ovata* with shaggy bark but with larger and sweeter nuts – great for eating; easier to grow from seed; proven reliable in eastern Nebraska; 40'x 35'.
13. **Horsechestnut** - *Aesculus hippocastanum* (Related to buckeyes; dark green foliage and beautiful creamy flowers; prone to leaf diseases; 35'x 30'. Not edible for humans but great for wildlife.
14. **Oak, Bur** - *Quercus macrocarpa* – An outstanding Great Plains native; big and majestic; very tough and reliable; Native Americans harvested and ate the acorns; acorns vary greatly in size by geographic location with southern types being quite large; 60'x 75'.
15. **Oak, Chinkapin** - *Quercus muehlenbergii* – A great native tree that tolerates high pH soils; narrow, chestnut-like leaves; 50'x 40'.
16. **Oak, Dwarf Chinkapin** - *Quercus prinoides* – SE Neb native; typically shrubby when young but becomes a small tree with time; fire adapted; prolific acorn producer from young age; loves the heat and sun; great for wildlife; 15-20'x 10-15'.
17. **Oak, Gambel** - *Quercus gambelii* – Rocky Mtn native with variable multi-stem habit; often heavy acorn crop; great for west Neb.; 20'x 15'.
18. **Oak, Swamp White** - *Quercus bicolor* -- One of the most popular oaks for planting; tough and adaptable; attractive glossy leaves with silvery underside; acorns relatively sweet and edible; 60'x 50'.
19. **Oak, White** - *Quercus alba* -- Native to much of eastern US and reaches into SE Neb; great majestic tree; dusty red fall color; a durable long lived tree; considered the sweetest native acorn for human consumption; prone to herbicide damage; 65'x50'.
20. **Pecan** - *Carya illinoensis* – Pecan is a woefully underused tree; it is tough and adaptable and makes a great shade/yard tree with many large specimens across east Neb.; also produces the tastiest nut; Trivia: Pecan is the largest agricultural crop native to the US; 70'x 50'.
21. **Pine, Korean** - *Pinus koraiensis* – There are several pine species that produce edible seeds often referred to as "Pine Nuts"; Korean pine is perhaps the best nut pine for eastern Nebraska with soft, attractive needles and attractive flaky bark; 50'x 30'.
22. **Pine, Limber** - *Pinus flexilis* – This tough as nails western Neb native produces small, edible nuts that are consumed quickly by birds & rodents; named for its flexible branches that resist heavy snow loads; plant in full sun on well-drained soils; 50'x 30'.
23. **Pine, Pinyon** - *Pinus cembroides* var. *edulis* – SW US native with large pine nuts; important food crop to Native Americans; very heat and drought tolerant with stout, short needles; needs well-drained soils; great choice for tough sites in western Nebraska; 25'x 20'.
24. **Pine, Swiss Stone** - *Pinus cembra* – Similar to Korean pine with relatively large edible nuts; most important pine nut of Europe; soft needles; doing well in locations across the state; deserves to be planted more; 40'x 30'.
25. **Walnut, Black** - *Juglans nigra* – The quintessential native nut tree that grows well across Nebraska; both loved and hated for its prolific nut production; tough and reliable; good lumber tree; GREAT for wildlife; 60'x 45'. There are several other walnut species and hybrids that have been tried in Nebraska including the English/Carpathian/Persian walnut (*Juglans regia*) and various hybrids. They are all worth a trying, though not nearly as reliable or prolific as our underappreciated native black walnut.

DID YOU KNOW? The greater the variety of plants, the more resilient the landscape.

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