



## Swamp White Oak - *Quercus bicolor*

**Description:** Swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*) is a medium sized tree naturally found in lowlands, along edges of streams, and in swamps subject to flooding. It is rapid growing and long lived, reaching 300 to 350 years plus. The hard strong wood is commercially valuable and is usually cut and sold as white oak. The acorns are eaten by many kinds of wildlife, particularly ducks.



**Leaf:** Alternate, simple, obovate, 3 to 7 inches long, margin with large irregular blunt teeth, 2 to 4 1/2 inches wide, dark green and shiny above, very pale below.

**Flower:** Monoecious; male flowers are yellow-green long catkins (2 to 4 inches long); females are green to red, very small in leaf axils; appearing in mid-spring with the leaves.

**Fruit:** Acorn, 1 inch long, tan, borne singly or double on a long stalk (2 inches), bowl-shaped cap covers about 1/3 of nut.

**Twig:** Moderately stout, light brown, terminal buds short, blunt, and light brown, thread-like stipules often present around terminal bud.

**Bark:** Gray and scaly, later developing irregular fissures and ridges.

**Form:** Medium size tree reaching heights of 80 feet, irregular crown, often with lower limbs remaining.

### Site requirements:

Throughout its range, swamp white oak is typically found on soils associated with lands that are periodically inundated, such as broad stream valleys, low-lying fields, and the margins of lakes, ponds, or sloughs. Swamp white oak is not found where flooding is permanent.

**Native Range:** Zone 4-8

AL, CT, DC, DE, IL, IN, KY, MA, ME, MD, MI, MN, MO, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, TN, VA, VT, WI, WV

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