

North Dakota Tree Selector

Scientific Name: *Ostrya virginiana*

Family: Betulaceae (Birch)

Hardiness: Zone 3

Leaves: Deciduous

Plant Type: Tree

Growth

Rate: Slow

Mature Height: 25-45'

Longevity: Long

Power Line: No

Ornamental

Flowers: Inconspicuous

Fruit: Tan

Fall Color: Yellow

Ironwood (American Hop-hornbeam)

Description

Also known as American hop-hornbeam. A medium sized, slow-growing tree, found in pockets along rivers in eastern North Dakota. Leaves resemble elm but this tree is a member of the Birch family. The largest tree in North Dakota is 33 feet tall with a canopy spread of 34 feet.

Preferences

Light: Part shade to full shade.

Water: Prefers moist soils.

Soil: Prefers well drained soils, intolerant of salt.

Comments

The name ironwood refers to the strength of the wood which is often used as handles on tools.

The name American hop-hornbeam comes from the fact that the seed bearing pods somewhat resemble the fruit of hops.

The hop-hornbeam holds onto its leaves through out the winter adding a unique look to the winter landscape.

Credits: Tree selector website, North Dakota Tree Handbook, <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=l330>



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www.ag.ndsu.edu/tree-selector

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