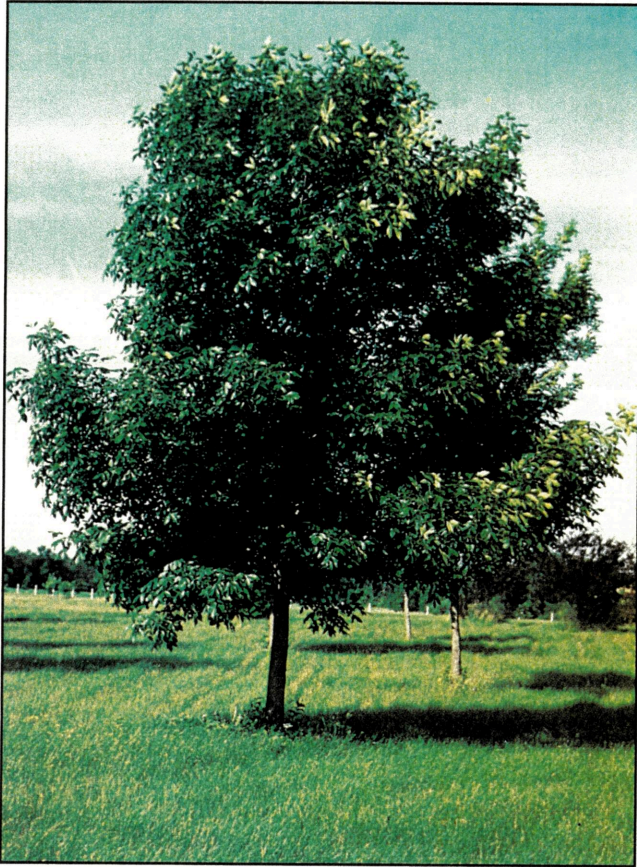


Green Ash



Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)

General Description

A hardy, native, drought- and alkali-resistant medium to large tree. Since the onset of Dutch elm disease, Green Ash has been overplanted as a replacement for American Elm.

Leaves and Buds

Bud Arrangement - Opposite.

Bud Color - Terminal buds are scaly, rusty-brown, and somewhat woolly.

Bud Size - $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.

Leaf Type and Shape - Pinnate compound, 5 to 9 stalked leaflets.

Leaf Margins - Sharply serrate to finely toothed.

Leaf Surface - A few hairs along main veins below or occasionally pubescent below, glabrous or pubescent twigs and petioles.

Leaf Length - 10 to 12 inches; leaflets 3 to 4 inches.

Leaf Width - 5 to 7 inches; leaflets 1 to 2 inches.

Leaf Color - Bright green on both surfaces, sometimes paler below. Clear yellow fall color, with early leaf drop.

Flowers and Fruits

Flower Type - Dioecious, unisexual flowers in large, dense clusters, hairy; anthers are linear-oblong, on short filaments.

Flower Color - Greenish-yellow.

Fruit Type - Samara, 1 to 2 inches long, with wing lanceolate and decurrent to below the middle of the seed.

Fruit Color - Light brown to tan in color.

Form

Growth Habit - Variable.

Texture - Medium, summer; medium-coarse, winter.

Crown Height - 35 to 65 feet.

Crown Width - 30 to 40 feet.

Bark Color - Bark is ash-gray to brownish on older branches and furrowed into close diamond-shaped areas separated by narrow interlacing ridges.

Root System - Roots are shallow, fibrous and widespread.

Environmental Requirements

Soils

Soil Texture - Adapted to a wide variety of soil textures.

Soil pH - 6.0 to 8.0.

Cold Hardiness

USDA Zone 2.

Water

Can withstand flooding for short periods of time, moderately high drought tolerance.

Light

Full sun.

Uses

Conservation/Windbreaks

Farmstead and field windbreaks, riparian plantings, highway beautification.

Wildlife

Seeds are eaten by birds and mammals. Trees provide cover and nesting sites for birds.

Agroforestry Products

Wood - Used in making furniture, tool handles and baseball bats. The wood is soaked in water and pounded to separate the wood into layers used for woven baskets, barrel hoops and chair seats.

Medicinal - Leaves and bark are used in a tonic for treatment of depression and fatigue. The root is used as a diuretic and for sores and itches.

Other Products - Red dye from the bark.

Urban/Recreational

Desirable for residential landscapes, shade and boulevard trees. Tolerates soil compaction.

Cultivated Varieties

Bergeson Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica* 'Bergeson') - Patented, introduced by Bergeson Nursery, Fertile, Minn. Male.

Dakota Centennial® Ash (*F. pennsylvanica* 'Wahpeton') - Male, fast growing, upright spreading, released by NDSU, Fargo.

Kindred Ash (*F. pennsylvanica* 'Kindred') - Introduced by the late Ben Gilbertson, Kindred, N.D. Male, glossy leaves.

Marshall's Seedless Ash (*F. pennsylvanica* 'Marshall's Seedless') - Male, variable spreading to rounded tree.

Patmore Ash (*F. pennsylvanica* 'Patmore') - Introduced by Richard Patmore, Patmore Nursery, Brandon, Man. Male tree.

Prairie Dome® Ash (*F. pennsylvanica* 'Leeds') - Densely oval to globose, male released by NDSU, Fargo, N.D. Quality tree.

Prairie Spire® Ash (*F. pennsylvanica* 'Rugby') - Dense, narrow upright male introduced by NDSU, Fargo, N.D. Excellent.

Summit Ash (*F. pennsylvanica* 'Summit') - Fairly narrow, dense, upright male introduced by Summit Nursery, Stillwater, Minn. Light, somewhat duller green foliage.

Related Species

Black Ash (*F. nigra*) - See Black Ash.

Manchurian Ash (*F. mandshurica*) - See Manchurian Ash.

White Ash (*F. americana*) - See White Ash.

Pests

Common diseases include stem decay, branch and twig cankers, anthracnose, leaf rust and ash yellows. Common insect pests include cankerworms, ash borers and ash plant bugs. Not susceptible to cottony ash psyllid, a new insect pest.