



Wyatt M. Feuz | Bridger M. Feuz | Hudson R. Hill





Authors:

Wyatt M. Feuz*, Bridger M. Feuz**, Hudson R. Hill**

^{*}University of Wyoming Extension Technician ^{**}University of Wyoming Extension West Area Educators for Agriculture and Horticulture In 2007, several UW Extension educators attended a horticultural tour of the Cheyenne Horticultural Field Station as part of training for the Profitable and Sustainable Agricultural Systems team. The focal point was the trees of the field station. The trees were planted from the mid-1930s to the early 1950s for research purposes on the station. In the 1950s, the station changed its focus and the trees were left to fend for themselves. This bulletin consists of a compilation of pictures taken during that 2007 tour and pertinent information to help in tree selection. The pictures are of the raw and exposed trees. That is to say that since the late 1950s, they had not been pruned or received any other special care. The uniqueness of this publication is that the trees are seen at their worst yet they are amazing trees that can add variety and stability to a landscape. A brief history of the station from the USDA-ARS is below.

The Cheyenne Horticultural Field Station and High Plains Grasslands Research Station

An experiment station near Cheyenne was authorized March 19, 1928. Congress directed the U.S. Department of Agriculture to establish the station to experiment with and propagate flowers, vegetables, and shade, fruit, ornamental, and shelterbelt trees, shrubs, and vines adapted to the conditions and needs of the semiarid or dry land regions of the U.S. The station was named the Central Great Plains Field Station and was to cooperate with the Northern Great Plains Field Station at Mandan, North Dakota, and the Southern Great Plains Field Station at Woodward, Oklahoma. Construction began June 1928. The first superintendent was Robert Wilson from 1928 to 1930.

In 1930, the station was renamed the Cheyenne Horticultural Field Station, and A.C. Hildreth was named superintendent. The first plantings of trees, shrubs, fruits, and vegetables were made in 1930, and building construction was completed in 1931. A Civilian Conservation Corps camp of 200 men opened up on the station in 1935. In seven years, the CCC built roads, more than 2 miles of concrete-lined irrigation ditches, a water and septic system, and planted thousands of trees and shrubs.

More than 1,300 varieties of tree fruits, (apples, pears, plums, cherries, etc.) and 300 varieties of small fruits (raspberries, strawberries, currants, and gooseberries) were tested for hardiness to drought and cold.

Research the station personnel conducted slowly changed over the years and in 1974 the station's mission changed from horticulture and shelterbelt research to livestock grazing management, mined land reclamation, and water conservation research. The name changed to the High Plains Grasslands Research Station.

Although the focus of the station has changed, you can still see the many acres of trees that were researched. Next to these trees are plaques giving a small description of each. Many of the trees at the station are included in this bulletin.

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Graphic Designer: Bernadette van der Vliet, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Office of Communications and Technology

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American Linden or Basswood

Tilia americana

General Description

The American linden or basswood is a medium to large-sized deciduous tree grown throughout the country. The tree is tall with many lowhung, slender, spreading branches and a rounded crown. These trees reach heights of 60 to 80 feet and have a spread one-half to two-thirds the height of the tree. Occasionally, they can reach heights of 100 feet or more.

Flowers

The flowers of the American linden are a perfect pale yellow color about ½-inch wide and are fragrant. The bracts of the flowers are shaped like a spatula and are 3 to 4 inches long. Bees supposedly make the finest honey from these flowers.

Fruit

The fruit of the American linden is a non-ornamental, nut-like fruit $\frac{1}{2}$ - to $\frac{1}{2}$ - inch long, with a hard shell.

Hardiness

Zone 3b to 8(9)

Diseases and Insects

The disease and insects that can attack these trees are leaf bite, canker, leaf spots, powdery mildew, Verticillium wilt, linden aphid, elm calligrapha, European linden bark borer, linden borer, caterpillars, basswood leaf miner, elm sawfly, thrips, galls caused by Eriophyid mite, scales and linden mite can be a serious problems; the foliage-feeding insects can damage the trees as they strip almost all foliage. If grown in a healthy situation it, is rare for the American linden to get any of these diseases.

Landscape Value

These trees are better used in large landscape areas like parks and golf courses. They make good wind blocks and protection for smaller trees.

Culture

The American linden prefers deep, moist, fertile soils but will grow in drier, heavier soils. It transplants readily and is pH adjustable. Grows in full sun or partial shade.

Native Habitat

Canada to Virginia and Alabama, west to North Dakota, Kansas and Texas. In the broadest interpretation ranging from Maine to Florida, west to eastern North Dakota, south to Oklahoma and Louisiana. Introduced in 1752.



Pyramidal when young, maturing to a tall stately open-headed tree. Large, heart-shaped leaves. Fragrant, pendulous, yellow flower clusters in June to July followed by pea sized pubescent green fruits. Tolerates alkaline soils. Found throughout the U.S. Planted 1949.

Amur Maple

Acer ginnala

General Description

The Amur maple is a multi-stemmed, large shrub or small tree. Usually 15 to 18 feet in height but can reach up to 25 feet. Spread is equal to or exceeds tree height. The shape varies and can be tailored to landscapes by pruning. Leaves are dark green on top and light green on the underside.

Flowers

The flowers on the Amur maple are yellowish white and fragrant as the leaves unfurl in April to May. They are one of the few maples with flowers.

Fruit

The fruit is samara and is ³/₄- to 1-inch long. Color ranges from red to brown; red color most vibrant in June and July. The fruit ripens in September to October.

Hardiness

Zone 3 to 8 but does not perform as well in zones 7 and 8

Disease and Insects

Relatively free of problems but can be affected by similar pests of the more common silver maple. However, iron chlorosis can often be a problem in clay soils and Verticillium can also affect some varieties.

Landscape Value

Can be used as a patio tree or along buildings and walls. Does better in shade then most maples. Good for aboveground container use.

Culture

The Amur maple is easily transplanted and is quite adaptable to a wide range of soils and pH conditions. Does best in moist, well-drained soils. It can be grown as a container plant. It prefers full sun or light shade.

Native Habitat

Central and Northern China, Manchuria, and Japan. Introduced in 1860.



Broad crowned tree with attractive foliage. The small deeply lobed leaves turn brilliant orange-red to wine-red in the fall. Small, white fragrant flowers appear in the spring. It can be grown as either a single or multi-stemmed tree. Native to Northeastern Asia. Planted in 1933.

Apache Plume

Fallugia paradoxa

General Description

The Apache plume is a multi-branched shrub that usually reaches about 4 to 6 feet in height and has a spread about the same. In ideal conditions can reach 8 feet in height and spread. It is also a member of the rose family. The leaves are small and are divided into about five lobes. This gives the plant a delicate look.

Flowers

The 2-inch flowers on the Apache plume are white and rose-like, and they bloom during the spring and persist from June to august.

Fruit

The fruit is a feathery fruit or seed and appears on the flowers in the summertime. The Apache plume was given its name because its fruit is pinkish-purple in color, is about 2½ inches in diameter, and resembles an Apache headdress.

Hardiness

Zone 4 to 8

Disease and Insects

No significant diseases or insects.

Landscape Value

Works great for erosion control because of its spreading root system. Also provides refuge for wildlife. Can be used as a hedge or screen.

Culture

The best time to plant Apache plume is fall, and early spring is the next best time. It prefers well-drained soils but will tolerate different types of soils. It is difficult to transplant a mature Apache plume once established.

Native Habitat

Southwestern United States



Attractive, fine textured western native shrub with white rose-like spring flowers followed by round, feathery silver-pink seed heads all summer. Though the foliage is semi-evergreen, it is inconspicuous throughout the winter. Planted in 1948.

Blue Velvet Honeysuckle

Lonicera korolkowi

General Description

The Blue velvet honeysuckle is a loose, open, irregular shrub with spreading and arching branches. It grows to 6 to 15 feet with a spread equal to the height. The leaves are ovate to elliptic with a pale, bluish-green hew.

Flowers

The flowers are a pinkish rose color and are about ²/₃-inch long. Bloom in May to June.

Fruit

The fruit is a bright red berry that matures in July and August.

Hardiness

Zone 3 to 7

Disease and Insects

No serious insect or disease problems known to affect this species.

Landscape Value

Can be used to add beauty to an area. Also can be used as a wind block or screen

Culture

Blue velvet honeysuckle is more difficult to establish then other honeysuckles and should be transplanted balled-and-burlapped. Prefers full sun and will tolerate partial shade. Soil should be sandy or clay loam. Does best with dry to moderate watering conditions.

Native Habitat

Soviet Central Asia bordering parts of Afghanistan and Pakistan. Introduced in 1880.



spring matures to gray-green. Pale pink flowers bloom in profusion during May to early June. Far superior to any large honeysuckle currently available in the trade. Planted in 1933.

Cheyenne Privet

Ligustrum vulgare 'Cheyenne'

Note: In the photo, the Cheyenne Privet is the larger shrub in the background

General Description

The Cheyenne privet is a shrub with many irregular spreading branches. They grow to 12 to 15 feet with a spread equal or exceeding the height. The leaves are dark green with an oblong-ovate to lanceolate shape.

Flowers

The flowers are white and very fragrant.

Fruit

The fruit is a lustrous black color and is about ¹/₃ inch in length. They are a berry-like drupe that ripens in September and persists throughout March or later.

Hardiness

Zone 4 to 8

Disease and Insects

Can be susceptible to anthracnose twig blight, which causes drying out of the leaves, blighting of the stems, and development of cankers. It can get powdery mildew, leaf spot, aphids, leaf miners, mites, and whiteflies.

Landscape Value

The Cheyenne privet can be used as a hedge, screen, border, or for foundation planting.

Culture

They transplant easy and are very adaptable. They prefer full sun or partial shade. After they flower is the time to prune.

Native Habitat

Original found in Sarajevo, Bosnia. Introduced by the Cheyenne Field Station.



Upright, rapid grower with extremely fragrant clusters of small white flowers in the early summer. An excellent shrub for screens and formal hedges. One of the more popular plants released from the Cheyenne Station. Originally found near Sarajevo, Bosnia. Planted 1937.

Dodd's Hawthorn

Crataegus doddsii

General Description

The Dodd's hawthorn is a small tree or large shrub with a nice growth habit with the tree becoming rounded. It has a brilliant red color in the fall. The Dodd's hawthorn also has noticeably large thorns. Hawthorns are among the most problem-free trees.

Flowers

White flowers that appear in the spring.

Fruit

Red fruit after the tree flowers.

Landscape Value

Beautiful fall color makes it a good decorative tree.

Native Habitat

Native to Wyoming and Colorado.



A small tree or shrub with a nice rounded growth habit and noticeably large thorns. White flowers appear in the spring resulting in red fruit. This tree's most notable attribute is its brilliant red fall color. Native to Wyoming and Colorado. Planted in 1932.

Dwarf Russian Almond

Prunus tenella

General Description

The dwarf Russian almond is a low, suckering shrub that grows 2 to 5 feet high with an equal spread. Its leaves are a lustrous, dark-green color above and a pale green beneath and $1\frac{1}{3}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length and $\frac{1}{2}$ - to 1-inch wide.

Flowers

The flowers of the dwarf Russian almond are a rosy pink color and are a ¹/₂ inch in length.

Fruit

The dwarf Russian almond has a nutty, gray-yellow-tan fruit about ³/₄ inches long.

Hardiness

Zone 2 to 6

Disease and Insects

Aphids and various fungus diseases

Landscape Value

Has good color. Fruit makes this shrub good for wildlife browsing, and its dense nature makes it a good covering for birds and rabbits. Can be used for bank stabilization and erosion control or as an ornamental shrub in a yard.

Culture

Flowers best when planted in full sun. Fairly drought tolerant. Also does well in cold climates.

Native Habitat

Southeastern Europe, western Asia to eastern Siberia. Introduced in 1683.

Dwarf Russian Almond Prunus tenella

Attractive upright shrub with masses of single rose-pink flowers appearing in early spring. An excellent ornamental shrub for cold climates. Produces a small bitter fruit. Aggressive suckering makes it useful for bank stabilization. Introduced in 1683. Native to SE Europe, Western Asia and Eastern Siberia. Planted in 1932.

Japanese Tree Lilac

Syringa reticulate

General Description

The Japanese tree lilac is a large shrub or small tree that grows 20 to 30 feet high and 15 to 25 feet in spread. It has stiff, spreading branches that form an oval to rounded crown. Its leaves are 2 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and about half as wide with a dark-green color on top and a grayish-green color on bottom.

Flowers

The flowers on the Japanese tree lilac are fragrant, creamy-white flowers appearing in large clusters in early to mid-June about 2-3 weeks later than shrub lilac.

Fruit

The fruit on Japanese tree Lilac is a warty, dehiscent, two-celled, 4- to 6-inch long cluster of capsules. They are quite attractive in the fall and winter.

Hardiness

Zone 3 to 7

Disease and Insects

Bacterial blight, Phytophthora blight, leaf blights, leaf spots, powdery mildew, wilt, ring spot virus, witches' broom, frost injury, graft blight, leaf roll necrosis, lilac borer, leopard moth borer, caterpillars, giant hornet, lilac leaf miner, and scales.

Landscape Value

One of the most trouble-free lilacs, good for use as a specimen tree, or use in groups or along buildings. Can be used as a street tree.

Culture

The Japanese tree lilac can be transplanted either balled-and-burlapped or from a container. Prefers well-drained, loose soils with a slightly acidic pH but can be pH adaptable. Grown best in full sun. Prune within a few weeks of blooming as new flower buds for the next year are set on new growth within a few weeks of blooming.

Native Habitat

Northern Japan. Introduced in 1876.



A prolific bearer of creamy white flowers in early to mid-June, making this the latest lilac to bloom. Looks best when lower braches are removed to form a small multi-stem tree. Young branches have glossy exfoliating bark. An excellent, hardy and unusual tree for streets. Native to Northern Japan. Planted in 1949.

Kentucky Coffeetree

Gymnocladus dioica

General Description

The Kentucky coffeetree grows 60 to 75 feet high and 40 to 50 feet in spread. Develops vertically ascending branches that form an obovate crown. Some like this species of tree because of its uniqueness. No two of these trees are exactly alike. The leaves are a dark-green almost blu-ish-green color and sometimes turn yellow in the fall. One of the main attractions of the tree is the unique branch structure visible during the winter.

Flowers

The flowers are greenish-white with four to five petals each spreading about $\frac{1}{3}$ inches long. The Kentucky coffeetree flowers in May to early June.

Fruit

The fruit of the Kentucky coffeetree is reddish-brown to brownish-black with a leathery pod 5 to 10 inches long and 1½ to 2 inches wide. Each pod contains a few hard-shelled seeds. The fruit ripens in October and stays on the tree throughout the winter. A good tree will produce the fruit on a three year cycle.

Hardiness

Zone 3b to 8

Disease and Insects

No serious disease or insects

Landscape Value

Great tree for parks, golf courses, school campuses, or any large area. Sometimes can be dirty because of falling pods. There are a few seedless forms available including Espresso.

Culture

Should be transplanted balled-and-burlapped into deep, rich, moist soil for best growth. Can adapt to a wide range of soil conditions. Prefers full sun. Prune in winter or early spring.

Native Habitat

New York and Pennsylvania to Minnesota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.



A large shade tree with fragrant white flowers that bloom on female trees followed by mahogany colored seed pods that persist through winter. Although early settlers once used the fruit as a substitute for coffee, the Kentucky coffeetree is a legume and is not related to typical coffee shrubs. Native to central U.S. Planted 1931.

Northern Red Oak

Quercus borealis

General Description

The Northern red oak is a fast-growing tree that reaches heights between 60 and 75 feet tall, with a spread about equal to the height. It is rounded in youth and rounded at the top and symmetrical once mature. Its leaves are $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and are known for their red color in the fall.

Flowers

This tree does not flower

Fruit

The fruit is an acorn nut, ³/₄- to 1 inches long and varies in shape, but usually subglobose. They are enclosed at the base in a thick, saucer-like cap. These nuts are a medium-brown color with greyish streaks.

Hardiness

Zone 3b to 7(8)

Disease and Insects

Basically free of problems but can encounter some of the same problems as the white oak.

Landscape Value

Works great for lawns, parks, golf courses, and commercial areas. Also has been successfully used as a street and urban tree.

Culture

Transplants readily because of negligible taproot; prefers sandy loam soils that are well-drained and on the acid side. Should be grown under full sand; withstands the polluted air of cities.

Native Habitat

Nova Scotia to Pennsylvania, west to Minnesota and Iowa. Introduced in 1800.



This relatively fast growing oak is native to the Eastern U.S. Its fine red autumn color is far superior to most other oaks. The valuable wood of this tree is used for flooring, cabinets and furniture. This species is often listed as *Quercus rubra*. Planted in 1949.

Oakleaf Mountain Ash

Sorbus x hybrida

General Description

The oakleaf mountaina Ash is a deciduous tree that grows to heights of 30 feet with a spread of 20 feet. Its leaves are a dark green on top with silver undersides; these leaves turn yellow in the fall. The oakleaf mountain ash also has a low canopy.

Flowers

Showy clusters of white flowers appear in the spring.

Fruit

Dark-red berries are held in abundance in the fall.

Hardiness

Zone 4

Disease and Insects

Resistant to fire blight

Landscape Value

Great as an accent tree or as a shade tree.

Culture

This tree should be pruned after winter when the threat of extreme cold has passed. Prefers full sun. It is adaptable to wet and dry conditions and different soil types.



Oakleaf Mountain Ash Sorbus x hybrida

An unusual hardy alternative to the typical mountain ash with leaves resembling those of an oak. White flowers appear in late spring followed by fruit which matures to orange-red in fall. Yellow to russet red fall color. Exhibits fire blight resistance and improved tolerance to alkaline soils. Introduced at the Cheyenne Station in 1938.

Peking Tree Lilac

Syringa pekinensis

General Description

The Peking tree lilac is a slow-growing, flowering tree similar to the Japanese tree lilac. It has an oval form in its youth becoming rounded with age. It grows to heights of 20 to 25 feet with an equal spread.

Flowers

The flowers are white and appear in clusters in late spring.

Fruit

No fruit present.

Hardiness

Zone 4 to 7

Disease and Insects

No serious diseases or insects.

Landscape Value

Peking tree lilac can be used in parking lots or for street trees and for other urban applications. Can also be used in yards and for groupings.

Culture

This tree is tolerant to many environmental conditions, but it does prefer well drained-soils and flowers best in full sun. Prune within a few weeks of blooming as new flower buds for the next year are set on new growth within a few weeks of blooming.

Native Habitat

Native to northern China.



A small shrubby tree lilac. Attractive bark is a smooth glossy slenna brown, exfoliating on some trees. Showy creamy white flowers appear in early June. Small leaves make it a nice choice for windy areas. Native to Northern China. Planted in 1952.

Russian Hawthorn

Crataegus ambigua

General Description

The Russian hawthorn is a moderate to slow-growing ornamental tree. It reaches heights of 15 to 20 feet with a spread of 15 to 20 feet. Its leaves are simple, alternate, and have a deep-green color in the summer with a green or yellow color in the fall.

Flowers

The flowers of the Russian hawthorn are white and bloom in the spring. These flowers give the tree an appearance of being covered in snow.

Fruit

Showy red berries appear in abundance through late fall. Can be very messy if you let the berries fall on the lawn or walkways.

Hardiness

Zone 4 to 8

Disease and Insects

No significant disease or insects.

Landscape Value

The Russian hawthorn is a very decorative tree that looks great in smaller landscapes. Its cherry-like fruit is great for attracting birds.

Culture

It is best to prune this tree in late winter to early spring or once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Should be grown in full sunlight. Is adaptable to many soil conditions but does not tolerate standing water well.

Native Habitat

Native to Russia.



Russian Hawthorn Crataegus ambigua

A small tree with a gnarled habit lending it an interesting silhouette. Numerous white flowers appear in May producing abundant glossy red fruits that ripen in the summer. They decorate the branches like ornaments for 2-3 weeks and are great for attracting birds. Native to S.E. Russia. Planted in 1931.

Sungari Rockspray Cotoneaster

Cotoneaster racemiflora soongorica

General Description

The Sungari rockspray cotoneaster is a hedge plant that provides winter food and shelter for many songbirds. It has bluer foliage and an abundance of pink fruit. It can tolerate dry sandy soils.

Flowers

Hanging racemes of white flowers appear in the spring.

Fruit

Red fruit.

Hardiness

Zone 3

Landscape Value

Hanging white flowers make it very appealing. Provides winter food and shelter for songbirds.

Native Habitat

Found near the Sungari River in China.



soongorica

A red-fruited hedge plant that provides winter food and shelter for a variety of songbirds. Displays a showy fall color. Hanging racemes of white flowers in spring are very appealing. Found near the Sungari River in China. Planted in1934.

Sutherland Caragana

Caragana arborescens Pyramidalis 'Sutherland'

General Description

The Sutherland caragana is a tall, oval shrub that grows 6 to 14 feet high with a spread of 6 to 12 feet. It has light-green leaves that become dark-green in the summer and yellow in the fall. Its roots are dense and spreading.

Flowers

The flowers are small and pea-like and are a showy yellow color in the spring.

Fruit

Its fruit are pods with multiple seeds. When ripe, pods open with a popping sound. Mature fruit color is brown.

Hardiness

Zone 2

Disease and Insects

Stem decay, Septoria leaf spot, branch cankers, and blister beetles.

Landscape Value

Good tree for windbreaks or highway and road use, screening, and borders. Also is used by many songbirds for nesting and is a food source for hummingbirds.

Culture

This tree is drought tolerant and adapted to a wide range of soils. Does not perform well in very wet or very dry sandy soils. It prefers full sun.

Native Habitat

Native to Siberia.



An extremely hardy columnar form of pea shrub that is often used for screens or strong vertical statements in the landscape. Glossy sienna brown bark adds winter interest. Yellow, pea-like flowers appear in late spring. Planted in 1929.

Tatarian Maple

Acer tataricum

General Description

The Tatarian maple is a large, multi-stemmed shrub or small tree reaching 15 to 30 feet in height with a comparable spread. The leaves are a medium-green color in the summer and range from yellow to red to reddish brown in the fall.

Flowers

The flowers are a greenish white color and appear with the leaves in April-May.

Fruit

The fruit are samara and are ³/₄- to 1-inch long and are a red to reddish brown color in the fall. On some trees, the fruit can be green or brown.

Hardiness

Zone 3 to 8 but seldom seen in zones 7 and 8

Disease and Insects

No serious diseases or insects.

Landscape Value

This tree is good as a residential or street tree. It can also be used in planter boxes or groupings. It is a great replacement for more common trees such as Canada Red Chokecherry and flowering pear.

Culture

Transplant balled-and-burlapped, is tolerant of adverse conditions such as drought.

Native Habitat

Southeast Europe, western Asia, in sunny, dry conditions, often as forest undergrowth, rarely as a solitary tree. Introduced in 1759.



An excellent single or multistemmed tree. This plant is striking in June when the winged seeds turn pink to brilliant red. Fall color varies from yellow to orange-red. Tolerant of alkaline soils. Native to Europe and Western Asia. Planted in 1953.

Tidy Caragana Caragana microphylla 'Tidy'

General Description

The tidy caragana is a small-sized, spreading shrub with upright branches and narrow, bright green foliage. It is similar to Siberian peashrub, but it is a smaller plant, and the leaves are a darker green. It has narrow leaflets and lemon-yellow flowers, making it attractive when it blooms in late May or early June.

Flowers

Yellow pea-like flowers.

Hardiness

Zone 3

Landscape Value

Perfect for courtyards or similar places.

Culture

Hardy plant; prefers full sun.



A small, spreading shrub with arching branches. A form of fern-leaved pea shrub that is selected for its soft texture and reduced suckering habit. Planted in 1951.

Ussurian Pear

Pyrus ussuriensis

General Description

The Ussurian pear is a dense and upright tree growing to heights of 40 to 50 feet, with a spread of 15 to 20 feet. It has simple ovate leaves 2 to 4 inches long that are dark green and orange to yellow or red to reddish purple in the fall.

Flowers

The flowers on the Ussurian pear are umbel-like racemes with a faintly pink color while budding and then turn white.

Fruit

The fruit are subglobose pome with short stalks and are greenish-yellow in color.

Hardiness

Zone 3 to 7

Disease and Insects

This pear is the least susceptible to fireblight.

Landscape Value

This tree can be used for field windbreaks; also good for a specimen tree or can be used in borders or screens. The fruit of the tree is edible and can be used for jams or jellies.

Culture

Prefers well-drained, clay loam to sandy loam soils and full sun.

Native Habitat

Northeastern Asia. Introduced in 1855.



This is the hardiest of all pears. In spring it has brilliant pink and white flowers that are followed by small fruit.

A native of northeastern Asia, it was introduced in North America in 1855. This disease resistant pear has become a valuable ornamental in colder climates. Planted in 1932.

Wavyleaf Oak

Quercus undulata

General Description

The Wavyleaf oak is a hybrid of gambel oak and shrub live oak. It is a large shrub or small tree growing to heights of 10 feet. It has simple, oblong, alternate leaves that are dark bluish-green on top and a dull green on bottom.

Fruit

The fruit is an acorn nut that is $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{6}$ of an inch long with a scaly cup covering about one-third of the nut.

Hardiness

Zone 5 to 8

Disease and Insects

No significant diseases or insects.

Landscape Value

This is a good shrub for decorative purposes in smaller landscapes or as a filler in a larger landscape.

Culture

Can grow in full sun or partial shade. Prefers moist loamy to clay soils. Intolerant of root disturbances.

Native Habitat

Native to Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Oklahoma, and northern Mexico.



A native shrub oak, occasionally a small tree. The foliage varies from plant to plant but ranges in color from green to blue. It retains its leaves throughout the winter. Native Americans used the seeds as a food source. Found throughout the Southwest U.S. Planted 1949.

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