

Sawtooth oak

Quercus acutissima

Description

Introduced to North America as a popular street tree due to its interesting foliage and fruits (acorns).

Habit

Large, deciduous, grows up to 50 ft in height, forms a pyramidal crown that rounds with age.

Leaves

Alternate, simple, lanceolate in shape, 3-7 in long, pinnately veined with a very sharply serrate margin bearing bristle-tipped teeth.

Stems

Slender, red to gray-brown in color with multiple terminal buds; buds are gray-brown, pubescent on the bud scale edges and somewhat pyramidal.

Flowers

Male catkins are golden and pendant, appearing in the spring; female catkins are borne on spikes,





appearing with the leaves; small in size; blooms in May.

Fruits and Seeds

Acorns are oval in shape, cap covers 1/2 of nut with spreading, curved scales on the involucre; trees produce large amounts of acorns.

Habitat

Native to eastern Asia; grows well in well-drained, acid soil and urban environments.

Reproduction

By seed.

Similar

American chestnut (*Castanea dentata*); Chinese chestnut (*Castanea mollissima*); Alleghany chinkapin (*Castanea pumila*); American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

For small seedlings, pull or treat leaves with glyphosate. To control larger trees, cut tree and grind stump; girdle; hack and squirt glyphosate; or cut and paint stump with glyphosate. Follow label and state requirements.

Credits

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