



Behmerwald Nursery
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Shade Tree Information

If you're looking for a shade tree, here is some information on some worthy candidates.

Recommended Shade Trees

Acer rubrum Red Maple
Height: 40-60' Width: 30-40' Growth Rate: Moderate-Fast
Features: Excellent red fall color; tolerates wet conditions

Acer saccharum Sugar Maple
Height: 60-75' Width: 40-50' Growth Rate: Moderate-Fast
Features: Excellent fall color that can be red, orange, or yellow

Betula nigra River Birch
Height: 40-70' Width: 40-60' Growth Rate: Fast
Features: Showy exfoliating bark; tolerates wet conditions; can be multi- or single-stemmed

Cercidiphyllum japonicum Katsura Tree
Height: 40-60' Width: 40-60' Growth Rate: Moderate-Fast
Features: Pest and disease resistant; yellow fall color; fallen leaves smell like cotton candy

Fagus spp. Beech
Height: 40-70' Width: 35-60' Growth Rate: Slow
Features: Various forms available; a large stately tree

Gleditsia triacanthos inermis Honeylocust
Height: 30-70' Width: 30-70' Growth Rate: Fast
Features: Casts dappled shade; bright green foliage, yellow fall color

Platanus x acerifolia London Planetree
Height: 70-100' Width: 65-80' Growth Rate: Fast
Features: Beautiful bark on mature specimens; resists anthracnose; tolerates wet conditions

Quercus rubra Northern Red Oak
Height: 60-75' Width: 60-75' Growth Rate: Moderate-Fast
Features: Red fall color; acorns are excellent source of food for wildlife

Ulmus parviflora Lacebark Elm
Height: 40-70' Width: 30-60' Growth Rate: Moderate
Features: Mature specimens have showy bark; vase shaped canopy; pest and disease resistant

Zelkova serrata Zelkova
Height: 50-80' Width: 50-80' Growth Rate: Fast
Features: Resistant to Dutch Elm Disease; orange-yellow fall color

Growth Rates

(Growth rates are subjective)

Slow: 1' or less annually

Moderate: 1-3' annually

Fast: 2-4' or more annually

Sources

This list has been compiled from experience and information from Dirr's Hardy Trees and Shrubs