

Live Oak Tree

Quercus virginiana

Full Sun

50' x 60'

Evergreen native

New leaves emerge in spring as old

leaves drop

Susceptible to Oak Wilt



Culture: A large, spreading tree, this Texas native oak grows well in full sun and is drought tolerant. It is salt tolerant and adapted to alkaline soils. Space trees 20' – 60' apart when transplanting in early spring.

Growth Habit: Live oaks have a moderate to slow growth rate. They have a side-spreading canopy with massive gnarled branches on single and multiple trunks. Live oaks cast a dense shade, making it difficult to grow turf grass underneath.

Leaves: Leaves are holly-like, olive green and don't drop until new leaves emerge in the spring. The bark is a dark charcoal color. As the tree matures, the bark cracks revealing an inner layer, which creates an alligator-skin look.

Notes: Oak wilt is a serious disease problem. It spreads by insect invasion, careless pruning and shared roots. Do not prune February through June. Pruning should be done in July and August during the hottest part of the summer or the coldest part of the winter. Apply pruning paint to any fresh cuts within 10 minutes after making the cut. Insect galls may also disfigure leaves, but do not harm the tree.

A beautiful Live Oak Tree can be viewed in the Master Gardener's Demonstration Garden located behind Hood County Annex 1 on 1410 W. Pearl St, Granbury, Texas