



Carya illinoensis(Wangenh.) K.Koch

Family: Juglandaceae

Common names: Pecan nut



Description:

Carya illinoensis is a large deciduous tree, growing to 20–40 m in height. The leaves are alternate, 30–45 cm long, and pinnate with 9–17 leaflets, each leaflet is 5–12 cm long and 2–6 cm broad. A pecan, like the fruit of all other members of the hickory genus, is not truly a nut, but is technically a drupe, a fruit with a single stone or pit, surrounded by a husk. The husks are produced from the exocarp tissue of the flower, while the nut develops from the endocarp and contains the seed.

Utilization:

The seeds of the pecan are edible, with a rich, buttery flavour. They can be eaten fresh or used in cooking, particularly in sweet desserts. The demand for pecan wood has steadily increased in recent decades. It is used for furniture, cabinetry, panelling and pallets. The wood has good machining properties, resembling those of true hickories (Adams and Thielges, 1977). Pecan trees are good to large landscapes and natural settings where wildlife is greatly attracted by the fruits.

Part	Uses
Pecan Nut Shell infusion	Antioxidant

References:

Adams J. C, and B. A. Thielges; (1977). Research underway on pecan timber improvement. Louisiana Agriculture 20(2):14-15.