



Ohio Buckeye
Aesculus glabra
Horsechestnut Family
(Hippocastanaceae)
By: Kylie Chonko



(photos taken by Kylie Chonko)

History

-Native to the Midwest & Great Plains in N. America

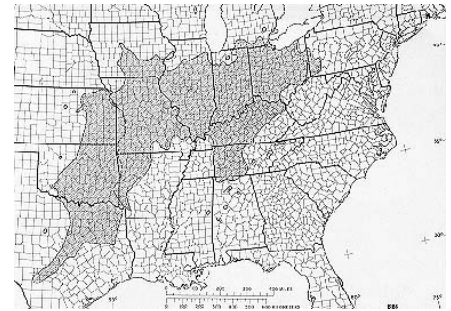
Life

- Deciduous tree
- Prefers moist soil so usually found along river, stream, and creek banks
- The tree typically develops a strong taproot in the first year

Geographical Range:

Midwest (begins at the western edge of Pennsylvania & southern edge of Michigan; extends through Ohio southwestward, can spread as far as Texas)

Image: http://www.na.fs.fed.us/pubs/silvics_manual/volume_2/aesculus/glabra.htm



Size

- Average height 20-40' tall, trunk diameter average 2' wide, a smaller tree
- overall width of tree around 30'

Characteristics

Leaves: light green (pale underneath), opposite, palmately compound, 5 leaflets that are 3-6", ovate or obovate shape (broad in middle), the margins have fine teeth, pinnately veined, smell when crushed

*leaves appear in early spring but fall off early (often by the end of summer, early fall)

Stems: smooth, 4-6" long

Flowers: yellow-green, appear in early spring, 3/4" long, 4 petals, unpleasant scent

Fruits: round, VERY spiny, 1-2" in diameter, contain buckeye seed

Seed: round, smooth, shiny, dark brown with a tan spot

Bark: light brownish gray, cracked appearance,

Pests

- Infected by few diseases or pests
- Susceptible to leaf "leaf blotch" (causes brown spots on leaves, doesn't cause long term damage)

Uses

- The Ohio Buckeye is not a good source of wood because it's soft & weak, however it may be used for cheap furniture, artificial limbs, boxes and crates
- Bark and seeds are poisonous to most livestock (therefore often not planted for ornamental use)
- Squirrels eat the buckeye nut

QUESTION: What kind of leaves does the Ohio Buckeye (*Aesculus glabra*) have?

- Palmately compound, 5 leaflets
- Palmately compound, 7 leaflets
- Pinnately compound, 5 leaflets
- Pinnately compound, 7 leaflets

References

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