

Osage Orange Tree



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Also known as Hedge Apple¹

Grows almost everywhere.
Fruit size of grapefruit²

Has large apple like fruit in the late
summer.¹

The tree on campus is more than...

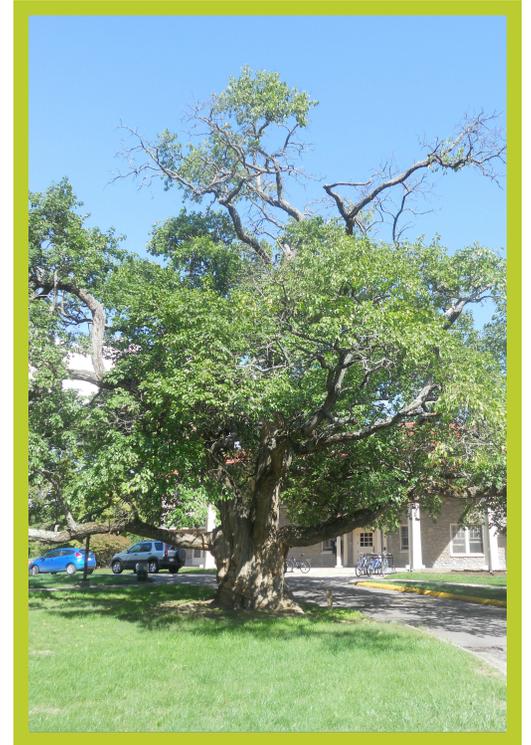
150 years old!¹

**Introduced in to 48/50 states
and in Canada and
Originated in the South.⁴**



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BOT 155
Tree Project



Osage Orange
Maclura pomifera

By Breann DeGrendel

Facts

Medium sized tree, 20-30 feet tall⁵

Part of the Mulberry Family
(Moracea)⁵

Leaves are:

Alternate, Simple, Entire,
ovate, and have pointed
tips.⁵

Can be distinguishable by ovate
leaves, large fruit. It also releases
a milky sap when a branch is broke
off that turns from white to black.⁵

Fruit only grow on females
Although the fruit isn't
edible, the seeds are!²

The fruit consists of many drupes.⁵

Can tolerate urban air and road
salt ².

It is mostly impenetrable to bugs ²
and has one main parasite that
attacks it, Cotton root rot. ⁵

Citations

- ¹ Brochure for Tree's at Miami University
- ² <http://lewis-clark.org/content/content-article.asp?ArticleID=2523>
- ³ <http://mdc.mo.gov/landwater-care/plant-management/nuisance-plant-management/osage-orange-control>
- ⁴ http://www.na.fs.fed.us/pubs/silvics_manual/volume_2/maclura/pomifera.htm
- ⁵ The Illustrated Book of Trees by William Carey Grimm



Indians

Used it for:

Sturdy wood
Hunting bows²

Called it "bois d'arc" or "wood for a
bow"²

Name came from translation of
Indian tribe's name, Wazhazhe
(Osage).

They were the first to use
this tree for their bows. ²

Different Uses

While the tree itself is to
dense to easily stick a nail in it, the
wood was used for fence posts. It
was so hard that it could outlast
wire. ²

If the tree is pruned then it
can yield a thick hedge with thorns.
The hedge is so thick that it was
used to block wind on the Prairie. ⁴



The flowers are very small!²

The Famous Tree

Meriwether Lewis²

Meriwether Lewis sent seeds of this
tree from St. Louis to Thomas
Jefferson.

He called them Osage apple trees.

Thomas Jefferson planted the seeds
at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. ²

Patrick Henry²

Spent last 5 years of life at Red Hill
Osage tree was there.

The tree was very tall, large
and about...

300 years old!²