



Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Quercus lobata* (Qlo)

New species

Common Name: Valley oak

Species Description

- Deciduous
- Large tree with highly branched growth habit and broad crown
- Thick deeply furrowed bark
- Deeply lobed dull green foliage
- Male flowers borne in yellow-green [catkins](#); small solitary female flowers
- Large long acorns, which may cause problems in high trafficked areas

Height and width

18 metres tall by 15 metres wide

Species origin

Lower slopes of central to southern California, USA

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 70\text{m}^3$
- Suitable for use as a street and park tree

Use considerations

- Has performed well in Canberra
- High frost and drought tolerance
- Grows naturally in silty loams, clay loams and sandy clay loams, and is considered an indicator of rich deep soils in its natural distribution
- Suitable for drier locations
- [Long lived](#)
- One of the faster growing oaks
- Low flammability
- Acorn drop may be a nuisance in pedestrian areas
- Produces pollen

Examples in Canberra

Clianthus Street, O'Connor and Westbourne Woods

Availability

Not readily available

