



Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Quercus lusitanica* (Qlu)

Common Name: Lusitanian oak, Portuguese oak, Gall oak

Species Description

- [Semi-evergreen](#) in warmer climates
- Wide spreading tree
- Deeply fissured brownish-grey bark.
- Glossy dark green to grey/green leaves. Distinguished from *Quercus robur* by regular and less deeply lobed leaves.
- Later autumn colour and leaf shedding than other oaks
- Flowers are [catkins](#) which appear in spring
- Plentiful acorns

Height and width

16 metres tall by 12 metres wide

Species origin

Morocco, Portugal and Galicia, Spain

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 45\text{m}^3$
- Excellent shade tree
- Suitable for use as a street tree and in parks or open areas where solar access in winter is not an issue as it retains leaves to mid-winter

Use considerations

- Has performed very well in Canberra
- High frost and drought tolerance
- Prefers well-drained deep fertile loams but grows in a range of soils across Canberra and withstands dry periods better than *Quercus robur*
- Grows best in full sun but tolerates shade when young
- [Long lived](#)
- Slow growing but hardy and persistent
- Low flammability
- Acorn drop may be a nuisance in pedestrian areas
- Produces pollen

Examples in Canberra

Forbes St, Turner and a group of trees in Booroondara Street, Reid on the ACT Tree Register

Availability

Commercially available but highly variable; suitable stock will need to be specifically propagated from Canberra provenance

