



Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Quercus macrocarpa* (Qma)

Common Name: Burr Oak, Bur Oak

Species Description

- Deciduous
- Large, broad spreading, round headed tree with stout branches and a large trunk
- Distinctive shaggy bark
- Green leaves with minimal autumn colour
- Male yellow-green [catkins](#) and small green tinged female flowers appearing as short spikes in spring
- Large acorns almost completely covered with a burr-like cap which may be a pedestrian or mowing hazard

Height and width

20 to 25 metres tall by 15 to 20 metres wide

Species origin

Great Lakes, Canada to central and eastern USA

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 100\text{m}^3$
- Suitable for use in large parks and wide streets
- An impressive specimen tree

Use considerations

- Grows well in temperate southern Australia and is suitable for Canberra's climate
- High frost and drought tolerance
- Adapts well to a wide range of soils and tolerates some root disturbance
- Grows best in full sun
- [Long lived](#)
- Slow growing
- Low flammability
- Susceptible to powdery mildew, aphids and oak leaf miner
- Requires formative pruning in early years
- Acorn drop may be a nuisance in pedestrian areas
- Produces pollen

Examples in Canberra

Bundeela Street, Narrabundah; National Circuit, Forrest and the National Arboretum Canberra

Availability

Commercially available when ordered in advance

