



ACT
Government

Transport Canberra
and City Services

Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Gleditsia triacanthos* 'Shademaster' (GLsh)

Common Name: Shademaster honey locust

Species Description

- Deciduous
- Ovate to rounded form with graceful ascending branches
- Dark grey thornless bark
- Dark green pinnately [compound foliage](#) with quite large leaflets, turning yellow in autumn
- Inconspicuous flowers in spring
- Produces brown legume-like pods in some seasons, although almost fruitless

Height and width

11 metres tall by 12 metres wide

Species origin

Southern USA

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 45\text{m}^3$
- Useful as a shade tree in streets, parks and commercial shopping areas
- Suitable for urban areas as it is thornless and almost fruitless
- Should not be planted near nature reserves, creeks or watercourses

Use considerations

- High frost tolerance and drought tolerance
- Grows in all soil types from heavy clays to limestone
- Grows best in full sun
- [Medium longevity](#)
- Fast growing
- Very low flammability
- Various cultivars of the thornless form have been declared as weeds around watercourses in other parts of Australia
- Can sucker when roots are disturbed
- Produces nectar which attracts bees

Examples in Canberra

221 London Circuit, the site of the former ActewAGL House

Availability

Commercially available

