

# Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: Quercus bicolor (Qbi)

Common Name: Swamp white oak

#### New species

#### **Species Description**

- Deciduous
- Large tree with large spreading canopy, short trunk and relatively slender branches
- Attractive deeply furrowed/scaly dark brown bark
- Dark green glossy leaves with white hairs on the underside with small rounded lobes or large crenate teeth; leaves turn yellow/brown to red in autumn
- Inconspicuous brown flowers in spring
- Tan-coloured acorns

### Height and width

15 to 20 metres tall by 15 to 20 metres wide

### **Species origin**

North-eastern USA and the Great Lakes area of Canada

## Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: ≥100m³
- An impressive shade tree good for use in parks and as a street tree on broad verges or avenues

#### **Use considerations**

- High frost tolerance and moderate drought tolerance
- Grows well on better soils in Canberra (clays/clay-loams), however tolerant of a wide range of soils, including wet boggy sites and of soil compaction
- Long lived
- Moderate growth rate
- Very low flammability
- Moderately susceptible to oak leaf miner
- Formative pruning may be required to help develop strong structure
- Acorn drop may be a nuisance in pedestrian areas
- Produces pollen

### **Examples in Canberra**

Cowper Street/Wakefield Avenue corners, Ainslie; Le Hunte Street, Deakin; Waratah Street, O'Connor and Mindarie Street, Narrabundah

# **Availability**

Commercially available

