



ACT
Government

Transport Canberra
and City Services

Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Quercus rubra* (Qru) (syn. *Quercus borealis*)

New species

Common Name: Red oak, Champion oak

Species Description

- Deciduous
- Rounded to broad spreading form
- Dark reddish grey brown bark with broad, thin, rounded ridges that appear to have shiny stripes down the centre
- Toothed leaves which are dark green and smooth, turning a rich red to brown in autumn
- Male flowers are yellow-green [catkins](#) in spring
- Acorns occur singly or in clusters of from two to five, partially enclosed by a scaly cup

Height and width

8 to 10 metres tall by 9 metres wide

Species origin

Eastern USA, south-east Canada

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 30\text{m}^3$
- Ideal for larger parks and gardens
- Could be used as a street tree where space permits, in conjunction with a secondary, faster growing street species

Use considerations

- Suitable for Canberra's climate and has performed very well in the past
- High frost tolerance and moderate drought tolerance
- Tolerates a wide variety of soils but performs best in moist, well-drained acidic soils in cooler areas
- [Long lived](#)
- Moderate to fast growth rate with adequate water access
- Low flammability

Examples in Canberra

Southern end of Hobart Ave adjoining Empire Circuit, Forrest; Edkins Street, Downer and Westbourne Woods

Availability

Commercially available

