PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Quercus virginiana* Mill.

**GENUS** *Quercus* **FAMILY** Fagaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Live Oak

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Seeds, Nuts

The acorns are eaten. They are ground into a fine flour, sun dried and made into porridge.
They can be crushed and used for bread.
The nuts are used for oil.

## DESCRIPTION

A tree which keeps its leaves through the year. They loose some leaves in colder regions. It grows to 12-15 m tall. It spread out widely. The branches are large and spread widely almost reaching the ground. The leaves are narrow and oval. They are 5-13 cm long. The edge is smooth. They are dark green and shiny above and whitish underneath. The acorns are narrowly oval and 2.5 cm long. They are enclosed for almost half their length in reddish-brown cups. The nuts are sweet and edible.

## HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It can grow on most soils. It can tolerate frost. It can resist salt spray. It suits hardiness zones 7-11.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

### Harvesting and Seed Production

It grows quickly.

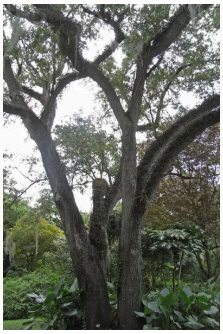
## NOTES

There are about 600 Quercus species.

## PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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**ONLINE FACT SHEET** https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/5276332b-744a-4181-9c3f-0345ca218e28