PLANT FACT SHEET

Carya aquatica (F. Michx.) Nutt.

GENUS *Carya* **FAMILY** Juglandaceae

COMMON NAMES Water hickory, Bitter pecan, Swamp hickory

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Nuts

The nut is bitter and fairly inedible.

DESCRIPTION

A deciduous tree. It grows 21 m high. It spreads to 12 m wide. The trunk is tall and straight. The bark is light brown and peels off. The leaves are sword shaped and 12 cm long. They have about 13 individual leaflets. There are fine teeth along the edge. The flowers are small and greenish. The male flowers are in slender drooping catkins and the female flowers are in groups or 2-10 at the tips of the same twigs. The fruit is egg shaped. It is 2.5-4 cm long and flattened with 4 wings.

HABITAT

A temperate plant. It grows in low, wet flatlands. It is often on clay soils and can be partly in water. It needs an open, sunny position. It is resistant to frost but damaged by drought. It suits hardiness zones 6-9.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

There are about 14-25 Carya species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/6b813527-07bb-411a-8889-e8a5ac434555