

## BIG TREES

### OKLAHOMA STATE CHAMPIONS

The Forestry Division of the State Department of Agriculture maintains the official Big Tree list for the State of Oklahoma. The American Forestry Association is responsible for the National Register of Big Trees, noting the National Champions for most native and naturalized tree species in the United States. Oklahoma currently has only one National Champion: the Blackjack Oak near Wakita in Grant County.

The Forestry Division encourages new entries for species on the list, and for those not presently listed. Accurate species identification is extremely important. Common and scientific names should conform to the Checklist of United States Trees (Native and Naturalized), by Dr. Elbert L. Little.

A tree's "bigness" is determined from a combination of three measurements:

1. Circumference, in inches, as measured at 4½ feet above the ground (DBH). If the trunk is deformed at this point, use the smallest diameter below this height. If the trunk forks below 4½ feet, measure the largest fork.
2. Height, in feet, is the vertical distance from the ground to the topmost branch in the crown.
3. Crown spread, in feet, is the average of the maximum and minimum spreads, from branch tip to branch.

The point total is determined by adding the Circumference (in inches), the Height (in feet), and one-fourth of the average Crown Spread (in feet). Entries are then compared to designate the Champion trees for each species.

The following information is needed in addition to the above measurements to nominate a tree: accurate location, name and address of landowner, name and address of reporter, and other items which will help a forester relocate the tree. Please send entries for Big Trees to:

State Department of Agriculture  
Forestry Division  
122A State Capitol Building  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105  
(405) 521-3886

Thanks for your interest! The list that follows includes those species considered native and naturalized, followed by a list of other trees.

BIG TREES  
 OKLAHOMA STATE CHAMPIONS  
 (Native and Naturalized)

SPECIES	CIRCUM-FERENCE	HEIGHT	CROWN SPREAD	POINTS	REPORTER	LOCATION; OWNER. (YEAR MEASURED)
Ailanthus Ailanthus altissima	6' 7"	38'	45'	128	Michael P. Vorwerk	¼ mi. E. of jct. of Plato Road and 5th Street in Duncan; Gerald Crosby. (1980) *
Ash, Blue Fraxinus quadrangulata	7' 3"	62'	42'	160	Philip M. Hayden Noble Casey	Cookson Hills Game Management Area, Cherokee Co. (1980)
Ash, Green Fraxinus pennsylvanica	11' 0"	61'	49'	205	Kurtis L. Atkinson	NW. 17th Street, Oklahoma City; Clayton Soule. (1977) *
Ash, White Fraxinus americana	5' 9"	94'	40'	173	Mark D. Morten James LeForce	Sec. 11-T2S-R20E, between Pickens and Cloudy Tower, McCurtain Co.; Weyerhaeuser Co. (1980)
Baldcypress Taxodium distichum	32' 4"	118'	97'	531	Stephen M. Mattax	7 mi. E. of Broken Bow on State Hwy. 3, McCurtain Co.; Dr. Lewis Stiles. (1980)
Basswood, American (Co-champion) Tilia americana	6' 8"	82'	55'	176	Mark D. Morten James LeForce	Sec. 11-T2S-R20E, between Pickens and Cloudy Tower, McCurtain Co.; Weyerhaeuser Co. (1980)
Basswood, American (Co-champion)	7' 10"	68'	54'	175	Philip M. Hayden Stephen M. Mattax	Sec. 5-T19N-R24E, 3 mi. S. of Kansas, Adair Co.; Frates Corp. (1981)
Birch, River Betula nigra	8' 7"	74'	89'	200	Robert P. Doye Dan Stinnett	Sec. 16-T17N-R20E, 3 mi. NW. of Hulbert, Cherokee Co.; Corps of Engineers. (1980)
Blackgum Nyssa sylvatica	15' 9"	105'	89'	316	Steve Swain	Sec. 14-T1S-R16E, 10 mi. N. of Moyers, Pushmataha Co.; Nekoosa Papers. (1976)
Boxelder Acer negundo	11' 6"	64'	70'	219	Robert L. McCord, Jr.	Red Rock Canyon State Park near Hinton. (1978)
Catalpa, Northern Catalpa speciosa	14' 11"	83'	66'	278	Steve Sprehe Robert P. Doye	S. Madison Avenue, Tulsa; Fred G. Shaw. (1979) *

SPECIES	CIRCUM-FERENCE	HEIGHT	CROWN SPREAD	POINTS	REPORTER	LOCATION; OWNER. (YEAR MEASURED)
Cherry, Black <i>Prunus serotina</i>	11' 1"	90'	93'	246	Philip M. Hayden	Sec. 29-T16N-R26E, 4 mi. E. of Stilwell, Adair Co.; W.S. Allred. (1977)
Chinkapin, Ozark <i>Castanea ozarkensis</i>	3' 8"	20'	28'	71	James M. Gleckler	Price and Main Streets, Jay, Delaware Co.; unknown. (1976) *
Chittamwood <i>Bumelia lanuginosa</i>	5' 3"	56'	39'	129	Gary W. Holeman	Methodist Church Camp near Hinton, Canadian Co. (1976)
Coffeetree, Kentucky <i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	8' 4"	60'	57'	174	Gerald R. Heath	Sec. 36-T20N-R15W, SE. of Orion, Major Co.; John J. Riddle. (1977)
Cottonwood, Eastern <i>Populus deltoides</i>	28' 4"	78'	99'	443	Gerald R. Heath	Sec. 34-T22N-R20W, 4 mi. SE. of Woodward; Rolla Childers. (1977)
Dogwood, Flowering <i>Cornus florida</i>	4' 0"	36'	33'	92	James M. Gleckler John Eitel	Sec. 26-T25N-R23E, near Grove Port in Delaware Co.; Frank Spiva. (1979)
Elm, American <i>Ulmus americana</i>	15' 7"	57'	81'	264	Glenn Hardiman	Owner's backyard, Ames, Major Co.; Glenn Hardiman. (1977) *
Elm, Lacebark <i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	6' 0"	40'	49'	124	Michael P. Vorwerk	Oak Street in Duncan, Stephens Co.; Noble Hensley. (1980) *
Elm, Siberian <i>Ulmus pumila</i>	10' 11"	50'	50'	194	Kurtis L. Atkinson	W. Owens Street, El Reno, Canadian Co.; Willard O. Bigelow. (1978) *
Elm, Winged <i>Ulmus alata</i>	5' 8"	81'	44'	160	Christopher K. Acuff	Sec. 1-T16N-R23E, 7 mi. SE. of Tahlequah, Cherokee Co.; Corps of Engineers. (1976)
Hackberry <i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	16' 10"	78'	72'	298	Robert P. Doye	E. 17th Street, Tulsa; Leo M. McFadden. (1979) *
Hercules-club <i>Zanthoxylum clava-herculis</i>	1' 10"	26'	18'	52	Stephen M. Mattax Philip M. Hayden	Sec. 24-T10N-R25E, 1 mi. NE. of Redland, Sequoyah Co.; Jess Russell. (1981)
Hickory, Bitternut (Co-champion) <i>Carya cordiformis</i>	6' 5"	102'	43'	190	Mark D. Morten James LeForce	Sec. 11-T2S-R20E, between Pickens and Cloudy Tower, McCurtain Co.; Weyerhaeuser Co. (1980)
Hickory, Bitternut (Co-champion)	6' 5"	104'	40'	191	"	Same as above. (1980)

PECIES	CIRCUM-FERENCE	HEIGHT	CROWN SPREAD	POI	REPORTER	LOCATION; OWNER. (YEAR SURED)
Hickory, Black Carya texana	7' 3"	64'	46'	162	Philip M. Hayden Mart Kirk	2 mi. S. of Leach, Delaware Co.; Calvin Trimble. (1981)
Hickory, Mockernut Carya tomentosa	6' 9"	72'	62'	168	Philip M. Hayden	Sec. 5-T19N-R25E, 5 mi. NW. of Watts, Adair Co.; along county road. (1981)
Hickory, Shagbark Carya ovata	8' 1"	76'	50'	185	Philip M. Hayden	Sec. 16-T14N-R24E, ½ mi. N. of Bunch, Adair Co.; Gillis Mayes. (1976)
Honeylocust Gleditsia triacanthos	9' 7"	84'	32'	207	James M. Gleckler Stephen M. Bratkovich	Sec. 29-T25N-R24E, 3 mi. NE. of Grove, Delaware Co.; Dick Smith. (1979)
Hophornbeam, Eastern Ostrya virginiana	2' 2"	30'	28'	63	Philip M. Hayden Philip Cummings	Sec. 1-T16N-R22E, 2 mi. NE. of Park Hill, Cherokee Co.; unknown. (1980)
Locust, Black Robinia pseudoacacia	9' 9"	37'	31'	162	Robert L. McCord, Jr.	Sec. 9-T8N-R10W, in Gracemont, Caddo Co.; K.O. Underwood. (1978) *
Maple, Red Acer rubrum	3' 6"	73'	36'	124	Philip M. Hayden	Sec. 12-T19N-R24E, 4 mi. SE. of Kansas, Adair Co.; unknown. (1981)
Maple, Silver Acer saccharinum	15' 8"	68'	75'	275	Robert L. McCord, Jr.	B and B Home Center, Davis, Murray Co.; Bill McNeil. (1978) *
Maple, Sugar Acer saccharum	6' 1"	92'	65'	181	Philip M. Hayden	Sec. 33-T26N-R24E, 14 E. of Afton, Ottawa Co.; unknown. (1981)
Mesquite Prosopis juliflora	7' 7"	32'	45'	134	Robert L. McCord, Jr.	Sec. 13-T1S-R16W, 14 mi. NE. of Frederick, Tillman Co.; Oklahoma Commissioners of Land. (1978)
Mulberry, Red Morus rubra	15' 7"	58'	75'	264	Gerald R. Heath	1½ mi. S. and 2 mi. W. of jct. of State Hwy. 132 and Hwy. 11, Grant Co.; J.D. Williams. (1977)
Oak, Black Quercus velutina	14' 11"	72'	73'	269	Philip M. Hayden	5 mi. E. of Stilwell, Adair Co.; Bud Winigar. (1979)
Oak, BlackJack Quercus marilandica	13' 0"	53'	78'	228	Roger L. Davis Lloyd Martin	Sec. 20-T27N-R8W, 3 mi. W. of jct. of State Hwy. 132 and Hwy. 11, Grant Co.; E.M. Robinson. (1980)

SPECIES	CIRCUM-FERENCE	HEIGHT	CROWN SPREAD	POJ	REPORTER	LOCATION; OWNER. (YEAR SURVED)
Oak, Bur <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	17' 11"	58'	86'	295	Robert P. Doye	Zink Park, Tulsa. (1978) *
Oak, Cherrybark <i>Quercus falcata</i> var. <i>pagodifolia</i>	12' 7"	80'	98'	256	Tommy C. Smith	Sec. 35-T8S-R25E, 1½ mi. S. of Haworth, McCurtain Co.; unknown. (1977)
Oak, Chinkapin <i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	11' 1"	65'	72'	216	Roger L. Davis	Sec. 9-T9S-R23E, 9 mi. SW. of Idabel, McCurtain Co.; along county road. (1977)
Oak, Northern Red <i>Quercus rubra</i>	14' 6"	82'	78'	276	Philip M. Hayden	5 mi. E. of Stilwell, Adair Co.; Bud Winigar. (1979)
Oak, Overcup <i>Quercus lyrata</i>	11' 3"	110'	82'	266	Tommy C. Smith	Sec. 18-T6S-R23E, 3 mi. W. of Golden, McCurtain Co.; Meyerhaeuser Co. (1977)
Oak, Pin <i>Quercus palustris</i>	15' 8"	110'	100'	323	James M. Gleckler	Sec. 29-T25N-R24E, 2½ mi. NE. of Grove, Delaware Co.; Dick Smith. (1979)
Oak, Post <i>Quercus stellata</i>	12' 8"	60'	68'	229	Robert L. McCord, Jr.	Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Comanche Co. (1978)
Oak, Shumard <i>Quercus shumardii</i>	12' 10"	122'	93'	299	Robert L. Gardner	Sec. 31-T11N-R10W, 10 mi. S. of Yukon, Canadian Co.; Ken Kitson. (1978)
Oak, Southern Red <i>Quercus falcata</i>	17' 7"	114'	119'	355	Stephen M. Mattax	Sec. 24-T8S-R23E, 4 mi. SW. of Idabel; Joe G. Hendrix. (1980)
Oak, Water <i>Quercus nigra</i>	16' 9"	104'	96'	329	James D. Langdon Clifton Wilson	Sec. 32-T2S-R16E, 3 mi. NE. of Moyers, Pushmataha Co.; W.H. Emery. (1979)
Oak, White <i>Quercus alba</i>	16' 4"	107'	64'	318	Stephen M. Mattax	Beavers Bend State Park N. of Broken Bow, McCurtain Co. (1980)
Oak, Willow <i>Quercus phellos</i>	15' 3"	79'	86'	283	Alan K. Myatt	Sec. 7-T6S-R24E, 1 mi. E. of Broken Bow, McCurtain Co.; Mrs. Ulas W. Cooke. (1975)
Osage-orange <i>Maclura pomifera</i>	16' 0"	63'	59'	270	Philip M. Hayden	Webbers Falls, Muskogee Co.; Mrs. C.L. Garrett. (1976)
Pawpaw <i>Asimina triloba</i>	2' 5"	17'	12'	49	Philip M. Hayden Stephen M. Mattax J.D. Hudgins	Oak Street, Stilwell, Adair Co.; Clyde Phillips. (1981) *

SPECIES	CIRCUM-FERENCE	HEIGHT	CROWN SPREAD	POI.	REPORTER	LOCATION; OWNER. (YEAR SURED)
Pecan (Co-champion) <i>Carya illinoensis</i>	14' 10"	99'	102'	302	Robert W. Blackstock	5 mi. E. and 2½ mi. N. of Stroud, Creek Co.; Robert W. Blackstock. (1976)
Pecan (Co-champion)	16' 6"	84'	83'	303	T.H. Milby, et al.	Sec. 12-T8N-R3W, 1 mi. S. of Norman, Cleveland Co.; Dickenson Trust. (1977)
Persimmon <i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	7' 1"	50'	40'	145	Verdo Hooker	E. 6th Street, Ada, Pontotoc Co.; Roy Keller. (1977) *
Pine, Austrian <i>Pinus nigra</i>	6' 6"	44'	30'	129	Gerald R. Heath	U.S.D.A. Field Station, Woodward. (1976) *
Pine, Loblolly (Co-champion) <i>Pinus taeda</i>	8' 11"	116'	65'	239	Tommy C. Smith	Oklahoma Forestry Division office site, Broken Bow. (1977)
Pine, Loblolly (Co-champion)	11' 8"	90'	55'	244	Tim Kolnik Paul Ferguson	Ouachita National Forest, 2 mi. N. of Haworth, McCurtain Co.; U.S. Forest Service. (1979)
Pine, Ponderosa <i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	6' 9"	41'	37'	131	Roger L. Davis	6 mi. SW. of Kenton, Cimarron Co.; Oklahoma Commissioners of Land. (1980)
Pine, Shortleaf <i>Pinus echinata</i>	9' 3"	120'	46'	243	Mark D. Worten G.B. Wright	Sec. 24-T1S-R20E, 3 mi. SE. of Nashoba, Pushmataha Co.; Meyerhaeuser Co. (1979)
Pine, Slash <i>Pinus elliotii</i>	6' 7"	78'	59'	172	Philip M. Hayden	E. 6th Street, Okmulgee; Otto Spring. (1979) *
Redbud <i>Cercis canadensis</i>	3' 0"	35'	30'	78	Philip M. Hayden Mart Kirk	3 mi. NW. of Twin Oaks, Delaware Co.; Steve Stoll. (1981)
Redcedar, Eastern <i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	10' 4"	63'	30'	194	Gary W. Holeman	Sec. 23-T19N-R20W, 3 mi. S. of Vici, Dewey Co.; George Turner. (1976)
Sassafras <i>Sassafras albidum</i>	7' 2"	55'	33'	149	Christopher K. Acuff	Northeastern Oklahoma State University, Tahlequah. (1976) *
Serviceberry, Downy <i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	1' 6"	35'	21'	58	Philip M. Hayden	Sec. 7-T19N-R25E, along county road 9 mi. SE. of Kansas, Adair Co. (1981)
Soapberry, Western <i>Sapindus drummondii</i>	8' 2"	52'	56'	164	Gary W. Holeman	Washita Heights Elementary School, Colony, Washita Co. (1978)

SPECIES	CIRCUM-FERENCE	HEIGHT	CROWN SPREAD	PLOTS	REPORTER	LOCATION; OWNER. (YEAR ASSURED)
Sugarberry <i>Celtis laevigata</i>	13' 9"	63'	62'	244	Kurtis L. Atkinson Robert S. Birchell	S. Lee Street, Oklahoma City; Melvin Smith. (1979) *
Sweetgum <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	8' 7"	116'	57'	233	Philip M. Hayden Stephen M. Mattax	Sec. 16-T11N-R27E, 3 mi. W. of Roland, Sequoyah Co.; Richard Cosner. (1981)
Sycamore <i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	23' 3"	87'	75'	385	James M. Gleckler	¼ mi. N. and ¼ mi. E. of Bird Creek bridge near Sperry, Tulsa Co.; Mrs. Opal Domres. (1977)
Tamarisk (Saltcedar) <i>Tamarix chinensis</i>	1' 3"	25'	12'	43	Roger L. Davis	4 mi. N. of Kenton, on Cimarron River, Cimarron Co.; unknown. (1980)
Walnut, Black <i>Juglans nigra</i>	13' 5"	66'	82'	247	T.H. Milby, et al.	Sec. 12-T8N-R3W, 1 mi. S. of Norman, Cleveland Co.; Dickenson Trust. (1977)
Willow, Black <i>Salix nigra</i>	13' 11"	58'	66'	241	Robert L. Gardner	Sec. 28-T6N-R2E, 4 mi. SE. of Eason, Pottawatomie Co.; unknown. (1977)
Willow, Sandbar <i>Salix exigua</i>	8"	19'	7'	29	Stephen M. Mattax Philip M. Hayden	Sec. 24-T10N-R25E, 1 mi. NE. of Redland, Sequoyah Co.; Jess Russell. (1981)

\* Denotes planted rather than native specimen.

OKLAHOMA STATE CHAMPIONS  
(Non-native)

SPECIES	CIRCUM-FERENCE	HEIGHT	CROWN SPREAD	POINTS	REPORTER	LOCATION; OWNER. (YEAR MEASURED)
Apple <i>Malus</i> sp.	4' 7"	26'	57'	95	Gary W. Holeman	Sec. 34-T10N-R14W, in Colony, Washita Co.; John Kauger. (1976)
Apricot <i>Prunus</i> sp.	4' 11"	35'	34'	102	Ronald D. Graham	W. Maine Street, Enid, Garfield Co.; unknown. (1979)
Baldcypress, <i>Montezuma Taxodium mucronatum</i>	2' 11"	38'	27'	80	Philip M. Hayden	E. 6th Street, Okmulgee; Otto Spring. (1979)
Crapemyrtle <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	2' 5"	28'	18'	61	Philip M. Hayden	E. 6th Street, Okmulgee; Otto Spring. (1979)
Cypress, Arizona <i>Cupressus arizonica</i>	8' 2"	50'	36'	157	Gerald R. Heath	U.S.D.A. Field Station, Woodward. (1976)
Euonymus <i>Euonymus bungeanus</i>	4' 7"	30'	25'	91	Gerald R. Heath	U.S.D.A. Field Station, Woodward. (1976)
Ginkgo <i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	5' 11"	50'	48'	133	Philip M. Hayden	E. 6th Street, Okmulgee; Otto Spring. (1979)
Goldenraintree <i>Koelreutaria paniculata</i>	5' 7"	36'	39'	113	Gary W. Holeman	Arapaho, Custer Co.; Frank McGoffin. (1976)
Honeylocust (Thornless) <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> var.	8' 10"	68'	68'	191	Gary W. Holeman	Means City Park, Weatherford, Custer Co. (1978)
Pine, Eastern White <i>Pinus strobus</i>	4' 7"	75'	34'	138	Robert S. Birchell	W. McNamee Street, Norman, Cleveland Co.; unknown. (1979)
Pistache, Chinese <i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	6' 3"	35'	40'	120	Gerald R. Heath	U.S.D.A. Field Station, Woodward. (1976)
Planetree, London <i>Platanus acerifolia</i>	10' 7"	80'	68'	224	Gary W. Holeman	2 mi. E. and 3½ mi. S. of Blair. Jackson Co.; Larry Wittmer. (1978)



SPECIES	CIRCUM-FERENCE	HEIGHT	CROWN SPREAD	POINTS	REPORTER	LOCATION; OWNER. (YEAR MEASURED)
Poplar, Yellow Liriodendron tulipifera	5' 7"	110'	48'	189	Philip M. Hayden	Sec. 9-T14N-R24E, 2 mi. N. of Bunch, Adair Co.; Larkin Baker. (1981)
Willow, Weeping Salix babylonica	11'11"	52'	62'	210	Philip M. Hayden Gary W. Holeman	E. Highway 20 in Pryor, Mayes Co.; Lee Kichens. (1981)

This list revised April, 1981.  
Kurtis L. Atkinson, Staff Forester, Oklahoma Forestry Division