



Species: *Robinia pseudoacacia*

(roe-bin'ee-ah sue-doe-a-kay'see-ah)

Black Locust

Cultivar Information

Variable size and shape. Globe <30'. 'Purple Robe,' 'Pyramidalis,' 'Globosum,' 'Bessoniana' are easy to transplant bare root.

* See specific cultivar notes on next page.

Ornamental Characteristics

Size: Tree > 30 feet, Tree < 30 feet

Height: 40' - 70' (spread 20' - 35'), some cultivars <30'

Leaves: Deciduous

Shape: open irregular

Ornamental Other: good in very difficult reclamation sites; tolerates intermittent flooding and drought; fixes atmospheric nitrogen

Environmental Characteristics

Light: Full sun

Hardy To Zone: 4b

Soil Ph: Can tolerate acid to alkaline soil (pH 5.0 to 8.0)

Salt Tolerance: Tolerates salty soil

Environmental Other: white, fragrant flowers in late spring; dark gray ropy bark; dark bluish green pinnately compound leaves

CU Structural Soil™: Yes

Insect Disease

borers can be a serious problem; leaf miners may also be problematic

Bare Root Transplanting

Easy

Other

native to east-central U.S. (Pennsylvania to Iowa, south to Georgia and Oklahoma); widely used in Europe as a street tree. Prohibited as INVASIVE in New York State

Cultivars for *Robinia pseudoacacia*

Showing 1-11 of 11 items.

Cultivar Name	Notes
Bessoniana	'Bessoniana' - small; compact; well-branched; oval; spineless
Globe	'Globe' - small, spineless, <30'
Frisia	'Frisia' (a.k.a. 'Aurea') - foliage emerges golden yellow, dulls in summer heat; red spines on new shoots; vigorous grower to 30' - 50' tall
Idaho	'Idaho' - possibly an <i>R. x ambigua</i> selection; tolerates difficult cultural conditions; cold tolerant to zone 3-4; rosy-pink blooms; grows to 40' tall x 30' wide
Purple Robe	'Purple Robe' (a.k.a. 'Rouge Cascade', 'Casque Rouge', 'Pink Cascade', 'Red Cascade') - possibly an <i>R. x ambigua</i> selection; compact rounded form; rose-pink flowers; grows to a 40' tree; new growth emerges bronzy-red and retains some undertones of this color into summer; forms fewer seeds than the species; flowers slightly earlier in the season
Pyramidalis	'Pyramidalis' (a.k.a. 'Fastigiata') - strongly upright, fastigate, spineless form; grows to 50' tall x 15' wide
Semperflorens	'Semperflorens' - sporadic bloom after the initial late-spring flush
Umbraculifera	'Umbraculifera' - dense, umbrella-like, dwarf form; grows to 20' tall; produces few or no thorns; flowers very sparsely; prone to damage from ice and borer insects
Twisty Baby	'Twisty Baby' (a.k.a. 'Tortuosa', 'Lace Lady') - twisted, contorted branches and stems; often grafted; usually do not exceed 10' in height; flowering is sparse or non-existent
Chicago Blues	'Chicago Blues' (a.k.a. 'Benjamin') - upright form with an oblong crown; thornless; blue-green foliage; grow to 50' tall x 35' wide
Inermis	'Inermis' - thornless variety

Photos



Robinia pseudoacacia - Habit



Robinia pseudoacacia - Bark



Robinia pseudoacacia - Leaves, Fruit



Robinia pseudoacacia - Leaves



Robinia pseudoacacia - Habit



Robinia pseudoacacia - Habit



Robinia pseudoacacia - Habit



Robinia pseudoacacia - Habit



Robinia pseudoacacia - Fruit