



THE OAK

QUERCUS

The oaks are amongst the finest of the large trees from the temperate regions of Europe, Asia and America. The 500 species of evergreen semi-evergreen and deciduous species range from shrubs 1m tall to the largest and long lived trees in the landscape. Unsurpassed for their rugged beauty and strength, the high quality timber has been used for centuries.



Strong, durable, hard wearing and aesthetically pleasing due to its distinctive grain, the timber is used for interior and exterior joinery, furniture, parquet flooring, veneers and barrels.



QUERCUS

Oaks are generally not too particular about soil conditions and can grow quite satisfactorily in various types of soils. They obviously grow better on fertile soils with a good moisture level, achieving excellent growth rates for a tree often perceived as slow growing. On poorer, lower fertility sites growth is slower, the unusual exception being heavier clay soils where some oak species really thrive. Due to their strong extensive root system, they are particularly stable and wind firm. Appleton's have extensively trialed seed sources from throughout New Zealand and collect acorns only from parents whose seedlings have superior form and acorn production.



THE OAKS OF EUROPE

There are three characteristics in particular that single out certain oaks as trees of real beauty. Their habit of branching, their texture and their autumn colour.



QUERCUS NEW FOLIAGE

The English Oak - *Quercus robur* is a broad and spreading tree with strong angular limbs with densely leafed branches that provide excellent shade. A regular and heavy producer of acorns, extremely tolerant of a wide range of soil and climatic conditions.

The Sessile Oak -

Quercus petraea has a strong central leader with a broad spreading crown. Often found growing in the same forest as *Quercus robur*, which gives rise to the hybrid form that Appletons grow. *Quercus petraea* x *robur*.

Turkey Oak - *Quercus cerris*

originating in Southern Europe and Turkey, this is a very drought hardy deciduous oak. With its dark rough bark and narrow dark green leaves, it makes a real contrast against a sun bleached landscape.

THE OAKS OF NORTH AMERICA

Red Oak - *Quercus rubra* is a quick growing species with a broad crown formed by strong straight branches. The large matt green leaves display scarlet and red-brown autumn hues.

Pin Oak - *Quercus palustris* Tolerant of a range of soil conditions, but often grown close to water, where the small acorns are favoured by wild fowl. Its deeply lobed leaves give a fine texture and turn crimson-orange in autumn. Horizontal branches with a characteristic cone shaped outline are common traits of the form most readily grown in New Zealand. We are growing seed from the Eastwoodhill arboretum which has a distinctive timber form. It is a quick growing tree with a straight trunk and wide spaced branches.

Scarlet Oak - *Quercus coccinea* A smaller medium sized tree with a slender open branch habit. The smaller deeply lobed leaves turn scarlet one branch at a time, then deep red making it the most brilliant of all oaks in autumn.



QUERCUS IN SPRING