Mexican Royal Oak

Quercus germana



Mexican Royal Oak
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 35 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 7

Description:

A small to medium semi-evergreen tree that eventually forms a dense, rounded habit with handsome, large blue-green leaves that emerge red; insignificant late winter to spring flowers are followed by rounded acorns in fall; prefers hot summer areas

Ornamental Features

Mexican Royal Oak has bluish-green foliage with light green veins and tinges of chartreuse which emerges brick red in spring on a tree with an oval habit of growth. The large serrated oval leaves remain bluish-green throughout the winter. However, the fruit can be messy in the landscape and may require occasional clean-up.



Mexican Royal Oak foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Mexican Royal Oak is a dense evergreen tree with a shapely oval form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds and squirrels to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Messy

Mexican Royal Oak is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Hedges/Screening
- Windbreaks and Shelterbelts

Planting & Growing

Mexican Royal Oak will grow to be about 35 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 5 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live to a ripe old age of 150 years or more; think of this as a heritage tree for future generations!

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant will benefit from an application of bonemeal and/or mycorrhizal fertilizer at the time of planting. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is not originally from North America.