



GREEN ASH

Fraxinus pennsylvanica

Native Range

Green ash grows naturally in bottomlands along streams in most of Kansas.

Mature Size

At maturity, it will reach a height of 35 to 45 feet with a broad, irregular crown.

Growth Rate

Average annual height growth of 12 to 18 inches can be expected under good management.

Leaves, Stems and Fruit

The leaves are compound, 6 to 9 inches long containing 7 to 9 leaflets. They are attached to the twig opposite one another. The leaflets are pointed and have small teeth along the edges. Male and female flowers are borne on separate trees. Fruit is a flat winged seed 1 to 2 inches long and 1/4 inch or less wide. The wing aids in seed dispersal. Bark is ashy gray and furrowed into closed diamond shaped patterns separated by narrow interlacing ridges.

Use

Windbreaks

Because of its moderate size, green ash is versatile in windbreaks. It can be planted as the interior or outside row of a multi-row windbreak. It can also be used for single row field windbreaks.

Timber

Green ash is a valuable timber species in Kansas. Its uses include wall paneling, furniture and tool handles.

Firewood

Green ash is recommended in firewood plantations. Its medium growth rate and heat yield provide potential for good firewood production.

Adaptation

Statewide.

Soil

Green ash grows best on deep fertile soils along streams. However, once established green ash will

tolerate seasonally droughts on a broad range of upland soils.

Spacing

In row spacing in single row and multi-row windbreaks range from 8 to 18 feet. In a firewood or timber planting, the spacing can vary from 6 x 10 feet to 12 x 12 feet.

Culture

One-year-old, bare-root seedlings 18 to 24 inches tall are used in tree plantings. Survival and initial growth are very good with proper weed and grass control. Green ash seedlings are moderately shade-tolerant.

Pests

Green ash borers and carpenter worms can be a serious problem, especially on dry upland soils.