

Texas Red Oak Tree (*Quercus shumardii* and *texana*)

Native Range: Texana is the Hill Country Red Oak and Shumardii is the Central to East Texas Red Oak. Most nursery Red Oaks are Shumardii because they grow faster and do better in pots. The true Hill Country Red Oak is available but not common in the nursery trade. The leaves of the two trees look very similar. Shumardii grows more tall and straight whereas Texana grows more low and irregular. Both are called “Texas” Red Oak.

Sun/Shade: Prefers full sun; part shade OK

Landscape Use: Currently the most common new shade tree planted. An excellent choice that grows moderately fast and has a stately trunk. Has nice late fall/ early winter fall foliage, sometimes as late as Christmas. Has the classic deeply lobed Oak tree leaf.

Size: Very large up to 60 feet and also wide, perhaps 30 feet.

Type: Deciduous shade tree.

Drought Tolerance: Very drought tolerant but looks best with regular watering.

Soil: Not particular about soil as long as it drains well and does not remain constantly wet. Does well in rocky soil or even better with soil enhancement.

Water: Smart Watering Principle=Water well when first planted then allow to dry slightly, without wilting, then water deeply again, etc. Do not keep constantly wet.

Fertilizer: Looks even better with regular fertilization.

Maintenance Tips: Develops an attractive shape without trimming. Can take off lower limbs as desired.

Rating: Rates high as a landscape plant.

Pictures: See the plant picture book in the appropriate section.