

# Quercus bicolor



## swamp white oak

Family	Fagaceae	
Origin	Native	
WIS Code	FACW	CoC 8

### DESCRIPTION

Large tree (15 to 35 m tall) with an irregular crown, and gray, rough, scaly bark with ridges and fissures. Mature twigs are light brown and smooth with short, blunt buds. Leaves (7 to 23 cm long) are simple, alternate, spatula-shaped, broadest in the middle with rounded lobed margins and tapering in a V-shape to the base. Upper leaf surface is shiny dark green, and the lower surface is light grayish-green and densely hairy.

### FLOWERS AND FRUITS

April; September to October. Flowers appear before the leaves. Male flowers are clustered in long narrow drooping spikes (catkins). Female flowers are inconspicuous. Better identification aids are the acorns that are oval egg-shaped (1.5 to 3 cm), topped by thick bowl-shaped caps covering half of the nut and with overlapping pointed scales. Acorns are usually two together on woody stalks (pedicels) 4 to 7 cm long.

### HABITAT

Stream banks, swamp forests, depression swamps, poorly drained floodplains.

### SIMILAR SPECIES

*Quercus prinus*, chestnut oak, has leaves with similar lobed margins, but the leaves are longer (10 to 30 cm) and more elliptic (not spatulate), the buds are strongly conical (not blunt), and it is found in drier upland habitats.



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*Quercus prinus*