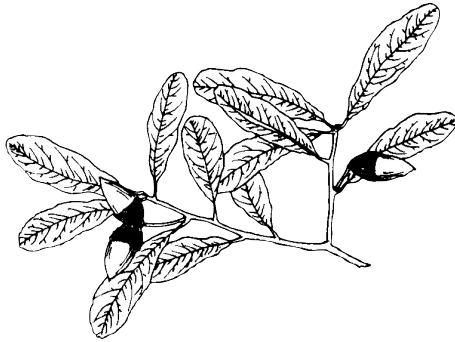


## Leaf Identification



Live Oak  
(*Quercus virginiana*)

The **live oak** at maturity is a massive tree with strong, heavy wood. It reaches 40'-80' in height with arching limbs that spread up to twice the tree's height. This is a broadleaf evergreen with leathery, lustrous, dark green leaves. On young seedlings, the leaves appear holly-like. The leaves are held all winter, but then shed in the spring when new leaves unfurl their buds. Crops of acorns ½"-3" long are produced annually. Songbirds, quail, turkey, squirrel, and deer eat the acorns.

Live oak is adaptable to many soil conditions, but the soil must be in the acidic range. It prefers full sun and tolerates extremely moist or compacted soil and salt spray. The growth rate is faster when young, then becomes moderate, slowing with age. This native tree has a long lifespan, often reaching 200-300 years.