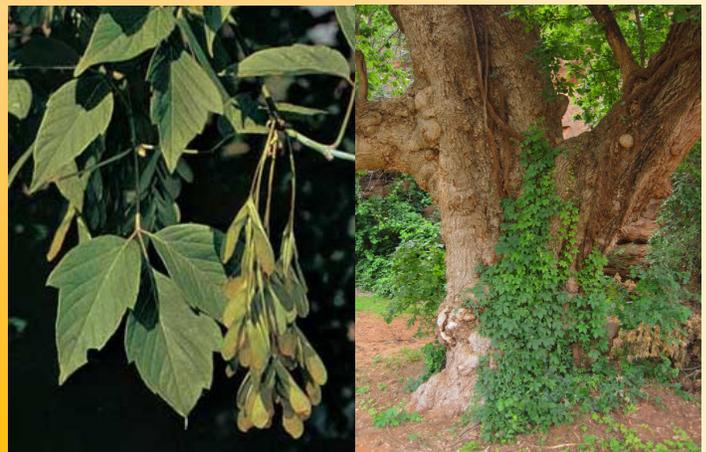




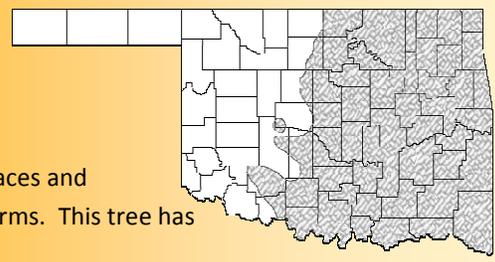
ID #: 397
Owner: Red Rock Canyon State Park
Circumference: 171 inches
Height: 48 feet
Average Crown Spread: 50.5 feet
Total Points: 231.6

Geocache Code: GC58WK8

This giant joined the list and has been the reigning Champion since 1976. While its actual age is unknown, the dead branches and knotty trunk attest to its years of withstanding Oklahoma's often harsh climate.



BOXELDER (*ACER NEGUNDO*)



Boxelder is planted for shade and shelterbelts and becoming naturalized in waste places and roadsides. Hardy and fast-growing, short-lived, and its weak branches break easily in storms. This tree has many uses within the Native American culture.

Medium—sized tree 60 feet high, with short trunk 2 feet in diameter and broad rounded crown. Twigs slender, shiny green with rings at nodes, mostly hairless. Buds small, pointed greenish gray, densely hairy, with few paired scales.

Leaves paired or opposite, 5—8 inches long, pinnately compound, with slender axis often pinkish. Leaflets 3 of 5, paired and short—stalked except long—stalked end leaflet, ovate or elliptical, 2—4 inches long, 1—2.5 inches wide, long—pointed, edges coarsely saw-toothed slightly lobed, light green and mostly hairless above, beneath paler and varying in hairiness, turning yellow or sometimes red in autumn.

Flowers several in cluster on slender drooping stalks before leaves in early spring, male and female on different trees, about 3/16 inch long, very small yellow green calyx of 5 lobes or sepals.

Fruits paired long—stalked pale yellow keys (samaras), slightly forking, several in long drooping clusters, 1—1.5 inches long including narrow flattened body and long wing, 1—seeded, maturing in autumn and remaining attached in winter.

Bark light gray brown, with many narrow ridges and fissures, becoming deeply furrowed .

Wood creamy white or brownish yellow with sapwood not distinguishable, diffuse porous, fine-textured, lightweight, soft, weak. Elsewhere sometimes mixed with soft maple and used for lumber and pulpwood.