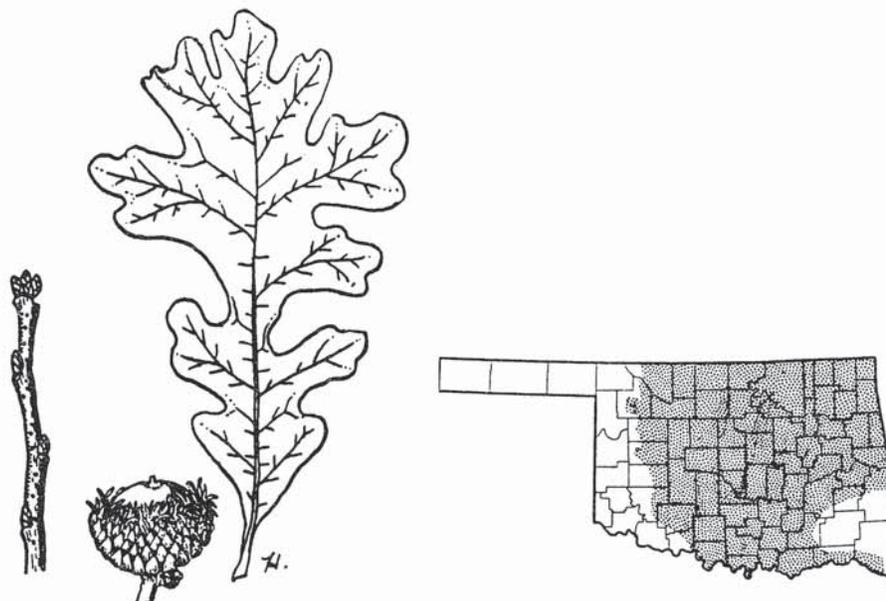


## 46. BUR OAK

*Quercus macrocarpa* Michx.; mossycup oak.

Small to large tree 60 ft (18 m) high and 1½ ft (0.5 m) in diameter, with broad rounded open crown of stout spreading branches. Twigs stout, gray hairy, sometimes with corky wings or ridges, ending in cluster of broadly egg-shaped blunt gray, soft hairy buds.



Leaves reverse ovate, 4-10 in (10-25 cm) long, 2-5 in (5-13 cm) wide, *broadest beyond middle, lower part deeply divided* into 2-3 lobes on each side, *upper half with usually 5-7 shallow rounded lobes* on each side to rounded tip, above dark green and hairless, dull or slightly shiny, beneath gray green and finely hairy, turning yellow or brown in autumn.

Acorns 1-2 on short stalk, usually *large* and broadly elliptical,  $\frac{3}{4}$ -2 in (2-5 cm) long and wide, mostly  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$  enclosed by *very deep thick cup* with many gray hairy overlapping scales, lower warty and upper very long-pointed forming *fringelike border*; maturing first year.

Bark light gray, thick, rough, deeply furrowed into scaly ridges.

Wood dark brown with thin whitish sapwood, ring porous, coarse- and uneven-textured, heavy (sp. gr. .58), hard, resistant to decay. Marketed as white oak lumber.

Scattered in moist soil, mostly valleys, over Okla. except w. one-fourth, panhandle, and se. Mountains. Common and widespread from dry uplands to moist valleys in e. half of U.S. except Atlantic and Gulf coasts, also in s. Canada. Zone 2.

Planted for shade, ornament, and shelterbelts. Hardy in cold dry climates. The acorns, often abundant, are the largest of all native U.S. oaks and provide food for wildlife. The common names allude to the fringelike border of the acorn cup, and the scientific name means large-fruit.