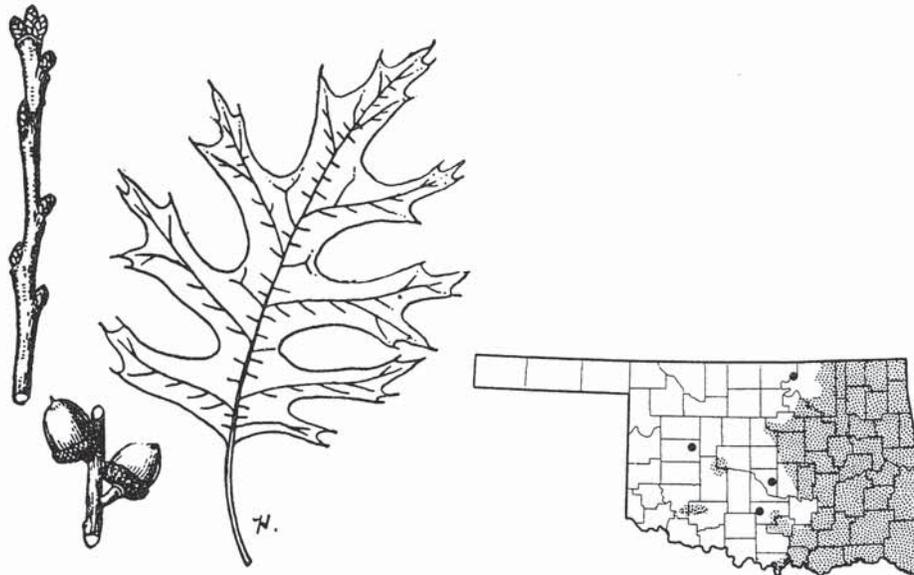


56. SHUMARD OAK

Quercus shumardii Buckl.; spotted oak, red oak.

Medium-sized to large tree 80 ft (24 m) high, with straight trunk 1½ ft (0.5 m) in diameter and broad rounded crown. Twigs slender, gray, hairless, ending in cluster of narrow pointed gray hairless buds.



Leaves elliptical, 3-7 in (7.5-18 cm) long, 2½-5 in (6-13 cm) wide, *deeply divided* nearly to midvein into 5-9 lobes broadest toward tip and with several spreading bristle-tipped teeth, the large *rounded sinuses* between lobes sometimes nearly closed, *slightly shiny dark green* and hairless above, beneath slightly shiny or dull green with hair tufts in vein angles, turning brown or dark red in autumn.

Acorns 1-2, short-stalked, egg-shaped, 5/8-1½ in (15-29 mm) long, ¼-½ enclosed by shallow or deep cup composed of tightly overlapping blunt gray scales, hairless or nearly so, maturing second year.

Bark gray and smoothish, becoming dark gray and slightly furrowed into ridges.

Wood light reddish brown, fine-textured, heavy (sp. gr. .63), hard. Marketed as red oak.

Common in moist soil, including limestone outcrops, oak-hickory, oak-pine, and flood plain forests, in e. half of Okla., also local in Caddo Co. canyons and Wichita Mts. Scattered in moist soil in se. one-fourth of U.S. Zone 5.

This species of the red oak group was named for Benjamin Franklin Shumard (1820-69), state geologist of Texas. A shade tree. A Shumard oak in Canadian Co. 122 ft (37 m) high is the tallest of all Oklahoma State Champions.

Texas oak (var. *texana* (Buckl.) Ashe), a variety in c. Tex., has been reported from Arbuckle Mts., s. Okla. It has small leaves usually 5-lobed, 3-3½ in (7.5-9 cm) long, 2½-3 in (6-7.5 cm) wide, small acorns, and red brown hairy buds.