

Tree Varieties for Central Texas

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Previous articles in this series discussed the advantages of planting trees in the home landscape and the benefits derived from trees. The second article discussed how to properly plant your selected trees and how to water new transplants. This article will give the reader suggestions on which trees to select for our Central Texas area. We have challenging soil and climate conditions. Planting trees that are adapted to this area will increase your success and give you many years of pleasure. Space limitations make the list incomplete and a full description is not possible here, but there are many books and other resources available in the community. Here are suggestions for the reader to consider when choosing trees for your landscape. Some of the varieties listed are better adapted than others for this area. As always consult with your local nurseryman to ensure the variety that you select will fill the spot in your landscape just the way you want it to.

Best Shade Trees

Bur Oak
Chinquapin Oak
Escarpment Live Oak
Texas Red Oak
Cedar Elm
Shumard Oak
Montezuma Cypress
Lacey Oak
Bigtooth Maple

Other Shade Trees

Pecan
Hackberry
Texas Ash
Anagua
Chinese Parasol
American SmokeTree
Ginkgo
Sweetgum
Bald Cypress
Fruitless Mulberry
Bradford Pear
Chinese Pistache
American Sycamore
Escarpment Black Cherry
Roughleaf Dogwood

Trees for Unusual Bloom or Fruit

Texas Mountain Laurel
Crepe Myrtle
Desert Willow
Hawthorn
Red Bud
Yaupon Holly
Mexican Persimmon
Flowering Senna

Texas Palo Verde
Mexican Plum
Mexican Buckeye
Jujube
Retama
Possumhaw Holly
Eve's Necklace
Goldenball Leadtree

Trees For Colorful Foliage

Aristocrat Pear
Soapberry
Bigtooth Maple
Flameleaf Sumac
Spanish Oak
Chinese Pistache
Bradford Pear
Carolina Buckthorn
Pomegranate
Conifers
Arizona Cypress
Bald Cypress
Montezuma Cypress
Pinyon Pine

Smaller Trees for Small Areas

Texas Persimmon
Texas Redbud
Mexican Plum
Southern Wax Myrtle
Vitex
Mexican Buckeye
Crepe Myrtle
Texas Mountain Laurel
Carolina Buckthorn
Texas Madrone

Some of the trees on this list require soil modifications or must be protected from freezing temperatures in winter. Some do better with little water and some need moist soil. Any interest in a particular variety should be accompanied by as much information as possible to insure success in your landscape. Please contact your county Extension agent or the many books and pamphlets

available. A wealth of excellent information may be obtained at the Texas A&M website. Availability of some unusual trees may be limited. In any case be sure to obtain your trees from a reputable company. Plant them with attention to their needs for light and room for their mature size and you will have years of pleasure in beautiful trees in your landscape.