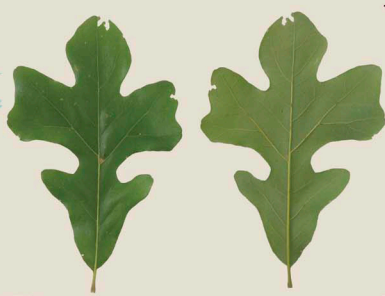




Bark



Height range 30-70'



4-8"

# Post Oak

## *Quercus stellata*

### The Beech Family (Fagaceae)

**Basic Description:** Medium-sized tree with dense, rounded crown; alternate, shiny, dark green, leathery, very large, deciduous leaves; and brownish-gray, plate-like, scaly bark.

**Interesting Facts:** Wood commonly used for posts, crossties and other construction purposes. Acorns are edible and, when roasted, make a coffee-like beverage. Tannins found in the tree used as an astringent and for tanning. Host to the Northern Hairstreak and Horace's Duskywing butterflies.

**Flower:** Male: 2 - 4" yellow-green flowers on hanging catkins; Female: Reddish short spikes from leaf axils, appearing with the leaves.

**Fruit:** Bowl-shaped, dark, shiny, brown acorns .5 - .75" with warty/scaly cap, covering 1/3 to 1/2 of acorn; maturing annually and ripening in the fall.

**Wildlife Value:** Multiple species of birds and mammals eat acorns and attracted insects. Valuable nest source for birds and small mammals.

**Habitat:** Dry, upland ridges and prairie edges.

#### LEAF TYPE

SIMPLE



#### POLLINATOR

WIND



#### WILDLIFE VALUE

HIGH

