

Live Oak

Quercus virginiana

The Beech Family (Fagaceae)

Basic Description: Large, long-lived tree with glossy alternate leaves, dark-brown furrowed bark, large sweeping canopies. It is tardily deciduous- it replaces its leaves every year but its branches are never completely bare.

Interesting Facts: The acorn is a source of vegetable oil, a coffee substitute and flour. Its high tannin content makes it useful as an astringent and for tanning leather. The lumber's sturdiness and natural curves made it valuable in ship construction.

Flower: Male: light yellow green catkins; Female: on spikes, appearing in spring.

Fruit: Bright green acorns turning dark brown, .75" long, covered a third by bowl-shaped cap in clusters of 3 to 5.

Wildlife Value: Provides cover and food for small mammals and birds, attracts beneficial insects, and hosts multiple moth species.

Habitat: Sandy coastal plains and ridges along marshes and bayous.

LEAF TYPE SIMPLE



WILDLIFE VALUE





POLLINATOR

