

Ash

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Fraxinus FAMILY: Oleaceae ORIGIN: Widespread across much of Europe, Asia, and North America

In recent years the Ash borer beetles have decimated our Ash tree population. You may see several dead Ash trees still standing here on the farm. But we can't find a single living large Ash tree on this property.



It's interesting to note that as the older Ash trees were dying, they



cast off huge quantities of seeds. Many of those seeds have now produced seedlings. So today, we have only very small Ash trees here.

The good news is Ash trees are somewhat shade tolerant and we expect the population of Ash trees here will rebound in the next 50 years.

The scientific name for the Ash tree is Fraxinus in the family, Oleaceae. The family contains 45– 65 species of usually medium to large trees,

mostly deciduous, though a number of subtropical species are evergreen. The genus is widespread across much of Europe, Asia, and North America.

Here in Indiana we primarily have the Green Ash although in his book "Trees of Indiana", Charles Deam notes that the Red, Gray, Green and White Ash were found in Indiana.