



Springboro Tree Farms

ENJOY THE SWEET LIFE!

Hackberry

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Celtis occidentalis*

FAMILY: Cannabaceae

ORIGIN: North America

Known as the common Hackberry its scientific name is *Celtis occidentalis*. It is a large deciduous tree native to North America. The Hackberry is also known as the nettletree, sugarberry, beaverwood, northern hackberry, and American hackberry.



Hackberry trees are all over this woodland. And while they are not particularly valuable trees we don't choose to discourage them but instead value them if for no other reason than maintaining a wide diversity of tree species here.

Nearly every tree has its place. And the place of the Hackberry is the wooden hoop! Because of its good bending qualities Hackberry was often used for making wooden hoops. And because the wood of the Hackberry looks like

the wood from an Ash tree, another name for the Hackberry is Hoop Ash.



In addition, the fruit of the tree...that is, the hackberry itself is edible and highly nutritious. They have been consumed by humans for millennia and are one of the first known foods that humans ate and stored. They are a versatile, power packed food. Flavor will vary from tree to tree, but in general they are sweet, tasty, and crunchy. Taking it one step further, traditional cultures have long treasured the hackberry for its medicinal value as well its use as a pain killer.