

Ohio Buckeye

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Aesculus glabra

FAMILY: Sapindaceae

ORIGIN: Midwestern and lower Great Plains regions of the United States

Buckeye trees are a plentiful understory tree here. We certainly don't consider them a crop tree but we do not treat them as an invasive...they are not technically an invasive and they don't seem to compete with our oak, walnut or hickory trees so we let them grow.



It's interesting to note that the fruit of the Ohio Buckeye is poisonous to livestock (though rarely fatal). And in days gone by, farmers around here often killed these trees.

The scientific name for the Ohio Buckeye is Aesculus glabra. It is a species of tree in the soapberry family native to North America. Its natural range is primarily in the Midwestern and lower Great Plains regions of the United States, extending southeast into Alabama and

Mississippi.

The name "buckeye" is often attributed to Native Americans, who called the nut "hetuck," which means "buck eye" because the markings on the nut resemble the eye of a deer.