

Scientific Name: *Robinia pseudoacacia*

Common Name: Black Locust

Environmental Conditions:

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Soil Moisture:

VERY WET			VERY DRY								
occasionally saturated or very wet soil			consistently moist, well drained soil			occasional periods of dry soil			prolonged periods of dry soil		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	

Sun/Shade: prefers full sun, tolerates full shade

Salt: some observed tolerance

pH: ≤ 8.2

Insect/Disease Factors: borers can be a serious problem, leaf miners may also be problematic

Growth Characteristics:

Height: 40'-50' common, can grow 70'-80'

Width: 20'-35'

Form/Habit: open, irregular-oval, upright branching

Rate: fast

Ornamental Characteristics:

Flower: pendulous, white, 4"-8" long clusters, late spring, fragrant

Fruit: brown-black, flat, 2"-4" long pod, may persist into winter

Seasonal Foliage Color: dull blue-green in summer, yellow-green in fall

Bark: dark gray, with interlacing ridges, ropy appearance

Transplant Issues: easy to transplant B&B, '**Pyramidalis**' (although cultivar not recommended) and '**Purple Robe**' are easy to transplant ≤ 2 " caliper bare root

Management Issues: fruit litter could be problematic, as well as thorns, in certain locations

Suggested Uses: narrow or wide street tree lawns/pits (widely used as street tree in Europe), parks, suitable for CU-Structural Soil™, good in very difficult reclamation sites (fixes own nitrogen)

Cultivars: '**Frisia**' (spines are red on young shoots, yellow foliage in summer, does not retain yellow color as well in cooler climates), '**Idahoensis**' (commonly called **Pink IdahoLocust**, *Robinia x ambigua*, zone 3, 25'-40' high, 15'-30' wide, rose-pink flowers), '**Purple Robe**' (zone 3, only 40' high, rounded form, dark pink flowers, new growth has purple tint, bronze-green summer foliage, still yellowish in fall)

* '**Pyramidalis**' (sometimes called '**Fastigiata**', narrower, columnar form, spineless, sparse flowering) is not recommended as it is not as hardy as species and is subject to dieback

*see small tree section for *Robinia* cultivars under 30' tall

