

Large Tree (over 40')
Deciduous

Native
Map #35

Thornless Honeylocust

(Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis)



Leaves: pinnately or bipinnately compound; leaflets very small, 1/3-1 1/2"; central rib of leaves is hairy and grooved; base of petiole swollen and enclosing the bud; fall - yellow to yellow green.

Buds: alternate, 5 or more at a node, some scaly, some naked, imbedded in stem, terminal bud is absent .

Stems: shiny greenish to reddish brown, zigzag, swollen at the nodes.

Bark: young – smooth greenish with lenticles; older – gray plate-like.

Flowers: not showy, greenish yellow, fragrant; can have male, female and perfect flowers on the same plant.

Fruits: reddish brown pod, 7-18"long, sometimes curled.

Habit: vase like to open spreading; the fine texture of this tree and the lightly filtered shade that it provides seems to make it the ideal tree to have around the patio.

Culture: This adaptable tree is easy to transplant, tolerates a wide range of soils, and is pollution and salt spray tolerant. Very adaptable. Tolerates poor dry soils. Full sun. Unfortunately, because of all of these qualities the tree has been overplanted, and many problems are being discovered.

Cultivars: *'Imperial'* - slow growing only to 30—35'; *'Skyline'* - pyramidal with a strong central leader and upright branches, dark green foliage turns brilliant yellow in fall; *'Sunburst'* - new foliage is bright yellow turning bright yellow-green, irregular shape with weak crotch angles; *'Shademaster'* - fruitless, vase-shaped with dark green foliage; *'Moraine'* - the first fruitless cv. developed; *'Green Glory'* - fruitless, strong central leader.

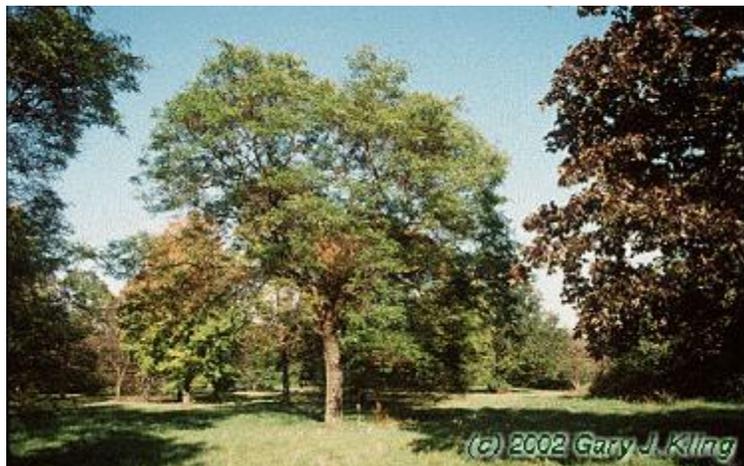
Miscellaneous: the straight species has large, thick, often clustered thorns along trunk and branches.



New foliage



'Sunburst' Honeylocust



'Imperial' Honeylocust

Credits: Photos from: www.midwestlandscapeplants.org and various other .edu websites unless noted. Text from: "Manual of Woody Landscape Plants" by Michael Dirr; "Tree Identification Characteristics (abridged)" from the University of Illinois Extension; www.midwestlandscapeplants.org; and misc. other sources. This publication may not be sold except to cover the cost of reproduction when used as part of an educational program of the University of Wisconsin-Extension.