

Shagbark hickory

Carya ovata

Species likely to be designated as threatened or vulnerable in Quebec

25 m



CHARACTERISTICS

- Leaf composed of 5 leaflets (rarely 7).
- The bark exfoliates in long strips, that detach from the trunk.
- Round fruits, 3 to 5 cm long, containing a pecan-flavored nut.



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Donald Cameron



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OBSERVATION PERIODS

Identification : all seasons Flowers : late May to mid-June Fruits : autumn



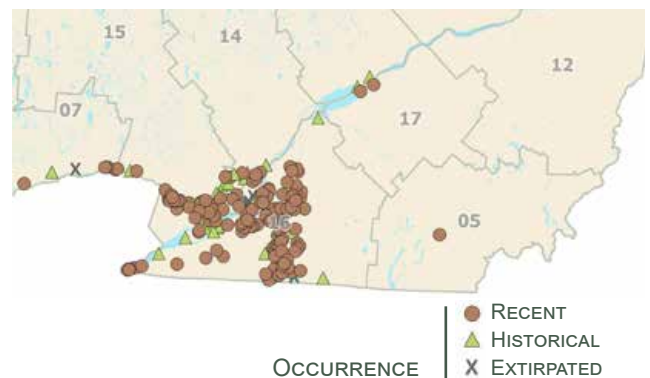
HABITAT

Rich, cool or humid woods:

- sugar maple groves and other deciduous forests, often on clay or rocky soils;
- found with silver maples and oak (bur oak and swamp white oak) in low-lying floodplains.

Sometimes in open sites along roadside ditches.

DISTRIBUTION IN QUEBEC



MAIN THREATS

- Habitat loss related to urban development and destruction of natural environments on floodplains.
- Forestry practices that do not promote the regeneration of the species.

The low number of occurrences, which often corresponds to very small local populations with low viability, increases the vulnerability of the species.

MANAGE YOUR FOREST WHILE PROTECTING AT-RISK FLORA

Your woodlot contributes to the protection of forest species in precarious situations. It is often preferable to avoid forest management interventions in their habitats. If such activities must be carried out, the protection of these species requires the following precautions:

STEP 1: IDENTIFY AND LOCATE THE SPECIES

Onsite, during the appropriate identification period, locate all the plants of the species (or have this done by a competent person). Then outline the zones where they are found (occupied zones) as well as the surrounding buffer zone.



STEP 2: PROTECT THE PLANTS

This species requires particular attention. It is listed as a species likely to be designated as threatened or vulnerable because the available information suggests that its survival is compromised.



STEP 3: AVOID MAJOR DISTURBANCES

in the occupied and buffer zones

- Ø Landing (wood piling) areas
- Ø Forest road construction
- Ø Forest drainage
- Ø Clearcuts
- Ø Scarification of the forest floor



STEP 4: ADAPT PRACTICES BASED ON SPECIES SENSITIVITY

Sensitivity to opening of the forest canopy

Low

Avoid cutting the Shagbark hickory and protect its regeneration.

In the occupied and buffer zones, opening of the forest canopy is allowed as the species tolerates high levels of sunlight.

Carry out partial cutting or thinning of low or even medium intensity if conditions are right to avoid the invasion of competing or invasive species.

Sensitivity to drainage pattern changes

Low to moderate

In the occupied and buffer zones avoid altering drainage and minimize soil compaction: use an adapted skidder or forwarder and plan logging trails on soils with adequate load-bearing capacity.



Sensitivity to trampling and mechanical damage

High

In the occupied zone, perform forestry operations in winter on frozen ground and, if possible on a snow cover to limit root damage as well as soil compaction and disturbance that could promote the introduction of competitive species (a thick litter remains conducive to the germination of its nuts). In the presence of young hickory regeneration, avoid the use of machinery unless you can protect it. Avoid leaving logging residues (branches, etc.).

If the plant cannot be identified or located, apply the protection measures to the entire forest stand.

Advise forest workers about plant locations as well as protection measures to apply.

This fact sheet was developed through the integration of scientific elements and discussions between experts from the MRNF and the MELCCFP. The recommendations may evolve as new knowledge becomes available. For references, please visit afm.qc.ca/fiches-paf-bonifies.

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