

Forest Distribution in Crawford County, Illinois

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Crawford County is one of those in the eastern tier of Illinois counties bordered on the east by the Wabash River with its extensive terrace and bottomlands. The Embarrass bottom which is one to two miles wide crosses the southwest corner of the county. This bottom is not so well drained; so it affords an excellent place for the more southern tree species, especially those of the southwestern coastal plains region.

The prairie area and loess deposit makes a notable east-west change. These factors make the county strategic as a transitional area.

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Annotated List of Tree Species

(Crawford County, Illinois)

Plant names used are mostly those of Gray's Manual, edition 7. In a few cases the names used are those given in Deam's Trees of Indiana (2) or in Eaton's list for Lawrence county (3).

Abbreviations and symbols used:

Habitat

- X —Xeric
- XM—Xeromesic
- M —Mesic
- HM—Hydromesic
- U —Upland
- B —Bottomland
- T —Terrace
- S —Swampy ground
- SB —Stream banks
- WR—Wide ranging

Distribution

- a —Abundant
- f —Frequent
- i —Infrequent
- lf —Locally frequent
- la —Locally abundant
- s —Scattering
- r —Rare
- w —Weed Tree
- sev—Several
- ld —Locally dominant

Pinaceae

Juniperus virginiana L. Red cedar. XM. s.

Salicaceae

- Populus grandidentata* Michx. Tooth-leaved aspen. U. only three groups.
- Populus deltoides* Marsh. Cottonwood. B. f. & la.; U. i.
- Populus heterophylla* L. Swamp cottonwood. S. la. f.
- Populus alba* L. Silver poplar. U. s. f.
- Salix nigra* Marsh. Black willow. SB. f.
- Salix longifolia* Muhl. Sandbar willow. SB. f.
- Salix discolor* Muhl. Pussy willow. S. f.
- Salix humilis* Marsh. Prairie willow. U. s. damp.
- Salix sericea* Marsh. Silky willow. Moist B. f.
- Salix cordata* Muhl. Heart-leaf willow. SB. f.
- Salix alba* L. European white willow. Introduced, one location.

Juglandaceae

- Juglans nigra* L. Black walnut. WR. f.
- Juglans cinerea* L. Butternut. M. i.
- Carya pecan* Asch. & Greene. Pecan. B. la.
- Carya cordiformis* K. Koch. Butternut, yellowbud hickory. U. f. & la.; B. i.
- Carya ovata* (Miller) K. Koch. Shellbark hickory. WR. f.

- Carya lacyniosa* (Michx. F.) Loud. Kingnut. Big shell bark hickory. B. f.; M. i.
- Carya alba* (L.) K. Koch. White hickory, big-bud hickory, mockernut. U. f.
- Carya ovalis* (Wang.) Sarg. Small-fruited hickory. U. i.; T. r.
- Betulaceae**
- Carpinus caroliniana* Walter. Hornbeam. M. f., S. B.
- Ostrya virginiana* K. Koch. Ironwood. Sev. trees one location only. SR.
- Betula nigra* L. Black birch. In. B. f. and la.; poorly drained U. i.
- Fagaceae**
- Fagus grandifolia* Ehrh. Beech. M. la. f.; B. i.
- Quercus alba* L. White oak. U. extremely frequent. B. i.
- Quercus muhlenbergii* Engelm. Chinquapin oak. U. i.; S.
- Quercus alexanderi* Britton. Broad-leaf chinquapin oak. M. f.
- Quercus bicolor* Willd. Swamp white oak. B. f. la.; poorly drained U. i.
- Quercus stellata* Wang. Post oak. U. f.
- Quercus macrocarpa* Michx. Fur oak. M. s., poorly drained U.
- Quercus borealis* Michx. Shingle oak. U. f.; B. i.
- Quercus palustris* Muench. Red oak. M. T. and T.; f.
- Quercus schneekii* Britton. Schneek's red oak. B. and T. f.
- Quercus velutina* Lamarck. Black oak. U. XM. f. la.
- Quercus marilandica* Muench. Black jack oak. U. X. XM. i.
- Ulmaceae**
- Ulmus americana* L. White elm. Very common. f. on SB. w.
- Ulmus fulva* Michx. Red elm. M. a.; XM. i.
- Celtis occidentalis* L. Hackberry. Moist B. f.
- Morus rubra* L. Red mulberry. M. f. SB.
- Magnoliaceae**
- Liriodendron tulipifera* L. Tulip tree. B., T., and M. slopes f. in denser woods.
- Anonaceae**
- Asimina triloba* (L.) Dunal. Pawpaw. M. woods.
- Lauraceae**
- Sassafras officinale* Nees & Eberm. U. M. f. la. w.
- Hamamelidaceae**
- Liquidambar styraciflua* L. Sweet gum. Rich B. a.; f. north part.
- Platanaceae**
- Platanus occidentalis* L. Sycamore. B. f. and la.; U. i.
- Rosaceae**
- Pyrus coronaria* L. American crabapple. f. especially north part.
- Pyrus ioensis* (Wood) Bailey. Western crabapple. f. over entire county.
- Amelanchier canadensis* (L.) Med. Service berry. U. M. i.
- Crataegus crus-galli* L. Cock-spur thorn. B. and T. f.
- Crataegus mollis* (Torrey & Gray) Scheele. Red haw. U.; B., and T. f.
- Crataegus viridis* L. Greenhaw. R. i.
- Crataegus phaeopyrum* (L. fil.) Med. r.
- Prunus americana* Marsh. Wild plum. B. s.; U. i. la.
- Prunus pennsylvanica* Wright & Hedrick. i.
- Prunus angustifolia* Marsh. Chickasaw plum. r.
- Prunus serotina* Ehrh. Black cherry. w. f.
- Leguminosae**
- Cercis canadensis* L. Red bud. SB. f. in rich moist woods.
- Gymnocladus dioica* K. Koch. Kentucky coffee tree. M. i.
- Gleditsia triacanthos* L. Honey locust. B. and well drained U. f. thornless variety (hermis) f. in B.
- Robinia pseudo-acacia* L. Black locust. U. f. e.
- Asilanthus altissima* (Miller) Swingle. Tree of heaven. r. c.
- Aceraceae**
- Acer negundo* L. Box elder. B. f.
- Acer saccharinum* L. Soft maple. B. f. s., and ld.
- Acer rubrum* L. Red maple. B. f.
- Acer saccharum* Marshall. Sugar maple. M. f. & a. variety *rugosii* Rehr. f.
- Acer nigrum* Michx. Black maple. B. r.
- Xapindaceae**
- Aesculus glabra* Willd. Ohio buckeye. B. r. only two trees.
- Tiliaceae**
- Tilia glabra* Vent. Bass wood. SB. and ravine slopes. i.
- Cornaceae**
- Nyssa sylvatica* Marsh. Black or sour gum. M. juvenile form. i.; XM. if.
- Cornus florida* L. Flowering dogwood. M. woods f.
- Cornus asperifolia* Michx. Rough-leaf dogwood. i.
- Cornus rugosa* Lamarck. Gray dogwood. i.
- Cornus alba* Raf. Pale dogwood. i.
- Ubenaceae**
- Diospyros virginiana* L. Persimmon. U. & B. forest i.; U. w. f.
- Oleaceae**
- Fraxinus americana* L. White ash. M. SB. & B. f.
- Fraxinus biltmoreana* Beadle. Biltmore ash. B. r.
- Fraxinus lanceolata* Borkh. Green ash. B. HM. f.
- Fraxinus pennsylvanica* Marsh. Red ash. B. S. r.

- Fraxinus profunda* Bush. Pumpkin ash. B. S. H.
Fraxinus nigra Marsh. Black ash. B. S. i. even r.
 Bignoneaceae
Catalpa speciosa Engelm. Very few native. e. f. & s.

MORE IMPORTANT SHRUBS

- Viburnum prunifolium* L. Black haw. M. B. f.
Corylus americana Walt. Hazel. X. f. w.
Benzoin aestivale (L.) Nees. Spicebush. M. B. woods f.
Hydrangea arborescens L. Smooth hydrangea. M. woods f.
Amorpha fruticosa L. Indigo bush. Treeless SP. a. near Wabash.
Zanthoxylum americanum Miller. Prickly ash. r.
Rhus copallina L. Rough sumac. a. w.
Staphylea trifolia L. Bladdernut. Moist forest f.
Cephalanthus occidentalis L. Buttonbush. B. S. a.
Sambucus canadensis L. Elder. U. s.

SUMMARY

This area is the northern part of what Ridgway (5) described as one of the most luxuriant areas of deciduous forest in the world—the lower Wabash Valley.

The range of Schneck's Red Oak (*Quercus schneckii* Britton), swamp cottonwood (*Populus heterophylla* L.), black maple (*Acer nigrum* Michx), Ohio buckeye (*Aesculus glabra* Vent) and pecan (*Carya pecan* Asch and Greene) is extended by this work.

Species found in the county which are not sufficiently identified for inclusion in the above list are: two willows, several hawthorns, at least one ash and a few wild plums.

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