



WACD Plant Materials Center

OREGON ASH

Common Name: Oregon Ash

Scientific Name: *Fraxinus latifolia*

Distribution: Oregon Ash grows throughout Western Washington from sea level to 3,000 feet. It is more predominant however, in the southern part of the region.

Growth Habit: Oregon Ash is a large upright deciduous tree, growing to over 60 feet tall on a favorable site. It may only reach 25 feet tall on drier soils. It develops a full, rounded canopy when grown on an open site, and a narrow upright habit when grown in a thicket of other trees.

Adaptability: Oregon Ash can be found growing in a wide range of sites that range from wet to dry and sunny to shady. It is best-suited however to moist soils, and often grows along streams, particularly in bottom-lands with heavy, wet soils. It is tolerant of sites that flood seasonally. Growth and vigor are maximized with full exposure.

Comments: Oregon Ash is a good tree for conservation and restoration projects. It is well adapted for use in restoring riparian habitat. It grows large and vigorous, providing shade for streams and habitat for birds and other wildlife. Oregon Ash is grown commercially. Its wood has been used for tool handles, furniture building, veneer, pulp, and fuel. It is also valued as an ornamental for its full, rounded canopy and bright yellow fall color.

