



## SWAMP WHITE OAK *Quercus bicolor* Willd.



Swamp white oak is not abundant, but occurs in small, widely scattered groves in York and Androscoggin counties. It grows in moist, fertile soil on the borders of swamps and along streams.

Swamp white oak grows to a height of about 50 feet and a diameter of 2–3 feet. The limbs are small, usually pendulous. The head is narrow, open and round-topped.

The **bark** on old trees is deeply furrowed, divided into broad, flat ridges, flaky and grayish-brown. On

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MAINE REGISTER  
OF BIG TREES  
2008

## Swamp White Oak\*

Circumference:

122"/126"

Height: 74'/75'

Crown Spread: 65'/60'

Location:

Wiscasset/Paris Hill

\*Tie



young trees and branches, it is smooth and separates into papery scales that hang loosely. The inner bark is orange.

The **leaves** are alternate, 4–6 inches long and slightly lobed. The upper surface is dark green and shiny; the lower, pale white or tawny.

The **flowers** appear in May when the leaves are not more than half-grown.

The **fruit** matures the first season. The acorn has a long stalk, is about 1 inch long, three times as long as the cup and about one-third enclosed by it.

The **twigs** have a yellowish or a light orange to reddish-brown bark.

The **wood** is strong, heavy, hard and used for the same purposes as the white oak.



*Swamp white oak twigs have small rounded buds. The bark of the twigs and small branches tends to peel and flake.*

