# An Evaluation of Trees for Southeast Kansas Landscapes*

By Jacob A. Weber  
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Scientific Name/Cultivar</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>~ S</td>
<td>Acer negundo</td>
<td>Box-Elder Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>! V S</td>
<td>Acer platanoides</td>
<td>Norway Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Crimson King’</td>
<td>Crimson King Norway Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(other cultivars available)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ S</td>
<td>Acer rubrum</td>
<td>Red Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Autumn Flame’</td>
<td>Autumn Flame Red Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Franksred’</td>
<td>Red Sunset Red Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘October Glory’</td>
<td>October Glory Red Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(other cultivars available)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>! S</td>
<td>Acer saccharinum</td>
<td>Silver Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ V S</td>
<td>Acer saccharum</td>
<td>Sugar (Hard) Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Caddo’</td>
<td>Caddo Sugar Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(other cultivars available)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ S</td>
<td>Acer x freemanii</td>
<td>Freeman Maple Hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Armstrong’</td>
<td>Armstrong Freeman Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Celzam’</td>
<td>Celebration Freeman Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Jeffersred’</td>
<td>Autumn Blaze Freeman Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Scarsen’</td>
<td>Scarlet Sentinel Freeman Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>! V</td>
<td>Aesculus glabra</td>
<td>Ohio Buckeye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>! V</td>
<td>Aesculus hippocastanum</td>
<td>Common Horse Chestnut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~</td>
<td>Ailanthus altissima</td>
<td>Tree of Heaven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>!</td>
<td>Betula nigra</td>
<td>River Birch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Heritage’</td>
<td>Heritage River Birch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Betula papyrifera</td>
<td>Canoe or White Birch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Betula pendula</td>
<td>European Birch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Betula platyphylla var. japonica</td>
<td>Japanese White Birch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Whitespire Jr.’</td>
<td>Whitespire Japanese White Birch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ W S</td>
<td>Carya illinoensis</td>
<td>Pecan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ W</td>
<td>Carya laciniosa</td>
<td>Kingnut Hickory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ W</td>
<td>Carya ovata</td>
<td>Shagbark Hickory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~</td>
<td>Catalpa speciosa</td>
<td>Northern Catalpa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ S</td>
<td>Celtis laevigata</td>
<td>Sugar Hackberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>! S</td>
<td>Celtis occidentalis</td>
<td>Hackberry (Sugarberry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>Cladrastis kentukea</td>
<td>Yellowwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>!</td>
<td>Fraxinus americana</td>
<td>White Ash</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
‘Autumn Purple’ Autumn Purple White Ash
‘Rose Hill’ Rose Hill White Ash
! V Fraxinus pennsylvanica Green Ash
‘Marshall Seedless’ Marshall Seedless Green Ash
+ Ginkgo biloba Maidenhair Tree
- Gleditsia triacanthos Common Honey-locust
! Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis Thornless Honey-locust
! ‘Imperial’ Imperial Thornless Honey-locust
(other cultivars available)
+ Gymnocladus dioica Kentucky Coffee Tree
~ W Juglans nigra Black Walnut
⊙ EW Juniperus scopulorum Rocky Mountain Juniper
! EW Juniperus virginiana Easter Red Cedar
‘Canaertii’ Canaert Juniper
‘Cupressifolia’ Hillspire Juniper
(numerous cultivars available)
! Liquidambar styraciflua Sweetgum
! V Liriodendron tulipifera Fruitless Sweetgum
! W Maclura pomifera Tulip Tree
‘Whiteshield’ Thornless and Fruitless
! ? V Magnolia acuminata Cucumber Tree
! E V Magnolia grandiflora Southern Magnolia
! V Magnolia x soulangiana Saucer Magnolia
(cultivars available)
! E V Metasequoia glyptostroboides Dawn Redwood
? SW Morus alba White Mulberry
~ SW Morus rubra Red Mulberry
~ V Paulownia tomentosa Empress Tree
? V Phellodendron amurense Amur Cork Tree
! EV Picea abies Norway Spruce
! EV Picea pungens Colorado Blue Spruce
⊙ E Pinus nigra Austrian Pine
⊙ E Pinus ponderosa Ponderosa Pine
⊙ E Pinus sylvestris Scots Pine
! EV Pinus strobus Eastern White Pine
! E Pinus taeda Loblolly Pine
⊙ E Pinus thunbergii Japanese Black Pine
! EV Pinus virginiana Virginia Pine (Scrub Pine)
+ Pistacia chinensis Chinese Pistache
! Platanus x acerifolia London Plane Tree
! Platanus occidentalis American Sycamore (Buttonwood)
! S Populus alba White Poplar
⊙ S Populus nigra var. ‘Italica’ Lombardy Poplar
! S Populus deltoides Eastern Cottonwood
~ SW Prunus serotina Black Cherry
+ W Quercus acutissima Sawtooth Oak
+ W Quercus alba White Oak
+ W Quercus bicolor Swamp White Oak
+ W Quercus imbricaria Shingle Oak
Quercus macrocarpa  
Bur Oak

Quercus marilandica  
Black Jack Oak

Quercus muehlenbergii  
Chinquapin or Chestnut Oak

Quercus nigra  
Water Oak

Quercus palustris  
Pin Oak

Quercus phellos  
Willow Oak

Quercus robur  
English Oak

(cultivars available)

Quercus rubra  
Northern Red Oak

Quercus shumardii  
Shumard Red Oak

Quercus stellata  
Post Oak

Quercus velutina  
Black Oak

Robinia pseudoacacia  
Black Locust

Salix babylonica  
Weeping Willow

Salix nigra  
Black Willow

Sapindus drumondii  
Western Soapberry

Sophora japonica  
Japanese Pagoda Tree

Taxodium distichum  
Common Bald Cypress

Tilia americana  
American Linden (Basswood)

Tsuga canadensis  
Canadian Hemlock

Ulmus americana  
American Elm

‘Heritage’  
Heritage American Elm

‘Valley Forage’  
Valley Forage American Elm

(Other cultivars available)

Ulmus Hybrids  
Hybrid Elms

Ulmus parvifolia  
Lacebark Elm

Ulmus pumila  
Siberian or Chinese Elm

Ulmus rubra  
Red or Slippery Elm

Zelkova serrata  
Japanese Zelkova

Acer buergerianum  
Trident Maple

Acer campestre  
Hedge Maple

Acer ginnala  
Amur Maple

Acer palmatum  
Japanese Red Maple

Acer truncatum  
Shantung Maple

Aesculus pavia  
Red Buckeye

Albizia julibrissin  
Mimosa (Silk Tree)

Amelanchier canadensis  
Shadblow Serviceberry

Amelanchier x grandiflora  
Apple Serviceberry

Asimina triloba  
Pawpaw

Broussonetia papyrifera  
Common Paper-Mulberry

Castanea mollissima  
Chinese Chestnut

Catalpa bignonioides  
Southern Catalpa

Cercis canadensis  
Easter Redbud

‘Alba’  
(White-flowered Redbud)

‘Forest Pansy’

Cercis reniformis  
Oklahoma Redbud

Chionanthus virginicus  
Fringetree

Cornus florida  
Flowering Dogwood

‘Cherokee Chief’  
Cherokee Chief Dogwood (red-flower)

Small Trees
‘Cloud Nine’
(Other cultivars available)
+ V
Cornus kousa
Kousa Dogwood

! Cotinus coggygria
Smoke Bush (Smoke Tree)

- W
Crataegus crus-galli
Cockspur Hawthorn

- W
Crataegus mollis
Downy Hawthorn

- W
Crataegus phaenopyrum
Washington Hawthorn

- W
Crataegus viridis
Green Hawthorn

‘Winter King’
Winter King Green Hawthorn

- E
Cupressocyparis leylandii
Leyland Cypress

~ W
Diospyros virginiana
American Persimmon (Possumwood)

@ SW
Elaeagnus angustifolia
Russian Olive

+ EV
Ilex x attenuata ‘Foster # 2’
Foster’s Holly

+ W
Ilex decidua
Possum Haw

+ Ev
Ilex opaca
American Holly

+ Koelreuteria paniculata
Golden-rain Tree

! W
Malus (species and hybrids)
Flowering Crabapple

‘Adams’
Adams Crabapple

‘Centurion’
Centurion Crabapple

‘Donald Wyman’
Donald Wyman Crabapple

‘Indian Magic’
Indian Magic

‘Prairifire’
Prairifire Crabapple

‘Snowdrift’
Snowdrift

‘Spring Snow’
Spring Snow

(Numerous cultivars available. Select scab resistant varieties only.)

~ W
Prunus americana
American or Wild Plum

~ SW
Prunus cerasifer
Purple Leaf Plum (Cherry Plum)

! V
Prunus serrulata
Oriental Cherry

‘Sekiayama’
Kwanzan Oriental Cherry

Several Cultivars

! S
Pyrus calleryana
Callery Pear

‘Aristocrat’
Aristocrat Callery Pear

‘Bradford’
Bradford Callery Pear

‘Cleveland Select’
Cleveland Select Callery Pear

‘Redspire’
Redspire Callery Pear

(Other cultivars available)

~ S
Salix caprea
Goat Willow

‘Roseum’
Pink-flowered Goat Willow

~ S
Salix matsudana ‘Tortuosa’
Corkscrew Willow

~ V
Sassafras albidum
Sassafras

! V
Syringa amurensis japonica
Japanese Tree Lilac

! EV
Thuja occidentalis
Eastern White Cedar

! E
Thuja orientalis
Oriental Arborvitae

! E
Thuja plicata
Western Red Cedar

‘Green Giant’
Green Giant

~ W
Zizyphus jujuba
Jujube or Chinese Date
Codes

+ Desirable. This tree is moderately free of pest problems, is adaptable to most landscape sites in the Southeast Kansas. Some species may have multiple features such as fall leaf color, attractive flowers, fruit, foliage, bark, etc., that may make them more desirable in the home landscape setting.

! A good tree for landscape use, but there are potential problems (e.g., site adaptability, occasional pest problem, nuisance growth, poor growth habit, messy fruit, thorns, etc.) associated with this tree. Use caution in site and variety selection. Utilize appropriate pruning and training to correct defects. Pest control measures may be needed.

~ A fair tree. This tree is adaptable to many sites in Southeast Kansas and may be suitable for use in home landscapes. These species are weak in desirable landscape features.

- This tree may be unsuitable for use in home landscapes. There are problems (insect, disease, poor growth habit, weak wood, nuisance fruit, etc.) that make it difficult to utilize this tree in the home landscape setting.

⊙ This tree is not recommended. Serious pest problems, lack of adaptability, or extremely undesirable growth habit severely limits the life expectancy of this tree and/or the use of this tree for landscape purposes.

? Not enough is known about this tree to make a recommendation.

E This tree is evergreen, or it may retain its foliage throughout much of the winter.

V This tree will produce variable results depending on location and/or cultivar selection.

S This tree has the potential for structural defects to develop due to narrow angled crotches, and/or susceptibility to decay, and/or weak and brittle wood.

W This tree is a source of food for wildlife.

The evaluation of the above tree species is based on personal observations of extant trees in southeast Kansas landscapes. In some cases, the recommendations of specific cultivars within the species is extrapolated (based upon the performance of plants within that species), or based upon the recommendations of other reliable sources.

It is acknowledged that there is potential for error. Species, specific cultivars, and or interspecific hybrids, not listed in this publication may have desirable characteristics making them suitable for Southeast Kansas landscapes.

The species listed above are known to grow in southeast Kansas. Any inferred criticism of trees not listed is unintended.