

FACT SHEET – Walnut

Issue 10

Genus *Juglans* (Walnut) are plants in the family Juglandaceae. The 21 species in the genus, range across the north temperate Old World from southeast Europe east to Japan, and more widely in the New World from southeast Canada west to California and south to Argentina.



Description

They are deciduous trees, 10m–40m tall (about 30–130ft), with pinnate leaves 200–900millimetres long (7–35 in), with 5–25 leaflets; the shoots have chambered pith, a character shared with the wingnuts (*Pterocarya*), but not the hickories (*Carya*) in the same family. The leaves and blossoms of the walnut tree normally appear in spring.

The two most commercially important species are *J. regia* for timber and nuts, and *J. nigra* for timber. Both species have similar cultivation requirements and are widely grown in temperate zones.

Walnuts are light-demanding species that benefit from protection from wind. Walnuts are also very hardy against drought.

Characteristics

The common walnut and the black walnut and its allies, are important for their attractive timber, which is hard, dense, tight-grained and polishes to a very smooth finish. The colour ranges from creamy white in the sapwood to a dark chocolate colour in the heartwood. When kiln-dried, walnut wood tends toward a dull brown colour, but when air-dried can become a rich purplish-brown.

Uses

Because of its colour, hardness and grain it is a prized furniture and carving wood. Walnut burls are commonly used to create bowls and other turned pieces. Veneer sliced from walnut burl is one of the most valuable and highly prized by cabinet makers and prestige car manufacturers. Walnut wood has been the timber of choice for gun makers for centuries, including the Gewehr 98 and Lee Enfield rifles of the First World War. It remains one the most popular choices for rifle and shotgun stocks, and is generally considered to be the premium – as well as the most traditional – wood for gun stocks, due to its resilience to compression along the grain.

STOCKS AVAILABLE: - **1" 1 ¼" 1 ½" 2"**
Widths - **4" & Wider**
Lengths - **7fts - 10fts**

(Also Available in SUPERIOR GRADE)