


**black locust** *Fabaceae Robinia pseudoacacia* L.  symbol:  
**ROPS**

**vTree**

**Leaf:** Alternate, pinnately compound, with 7 to 19 leaflets, 8 to 14 inches long. Leaflets are oval, one inch long, with entire margins. Leaves resemble sprigs of grapes; green above and paler below.

**Flower:** Perfect, showy and fragrant, white, 1 inch long and pea-like, borne in long (5 inches) hanging clusters, appear in mid to late spring.

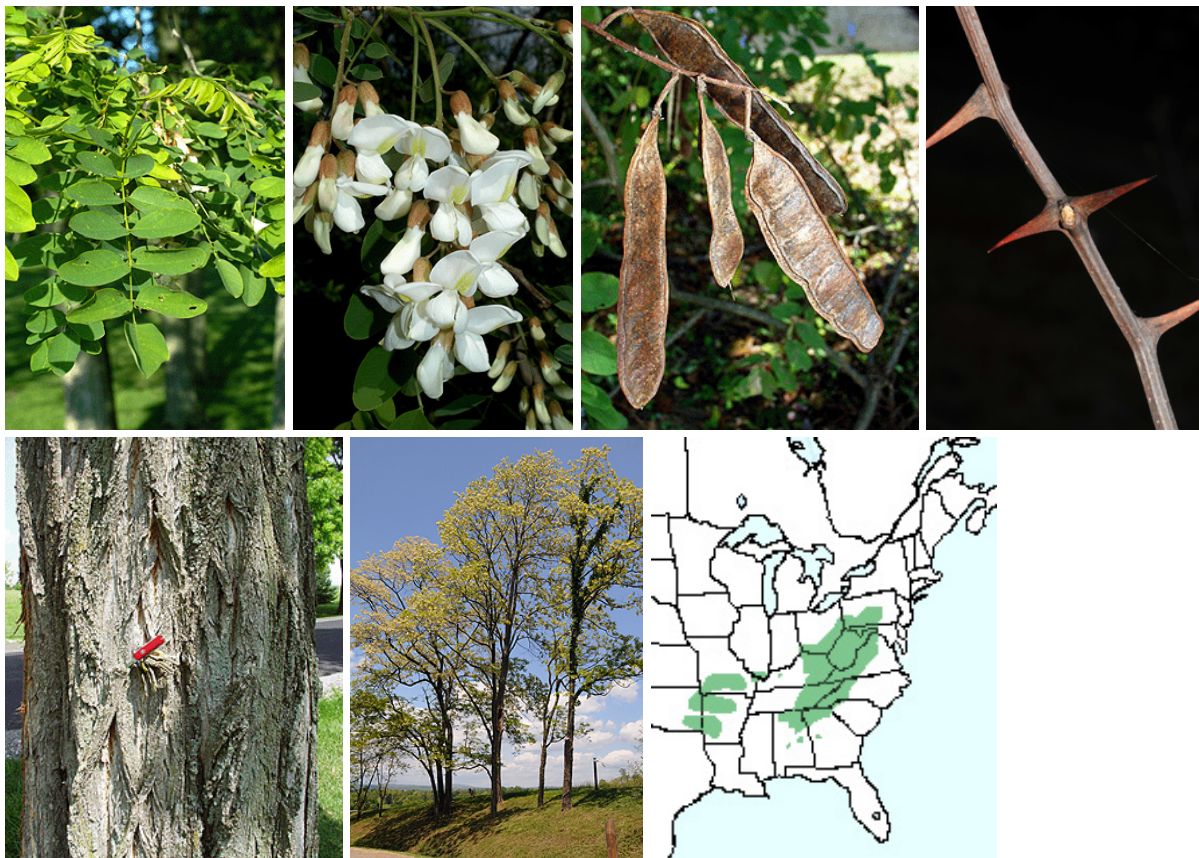
**Fruit:** Flattened legume, light brown, 2 to 4 inches long; containing 4 to 8 kidney-shaped, smooth, red-brown seeds, ripen in the fall.

**Twig:** Zigzag, somewhat stout and angular, red-brown in color, numerous lighter lenticels. Paired spines at each leaf scar (often absent on older or slow growing twigs); buds are submerged beneath the leaf scar.

**Bark:** Gray or light brown, thick and fibrous, heavily ridged and furrowed, resembles a woven rope.

**Form:** A medium sized tree to 70 feet, with a relatively straight trunk and a crown of crooked branches. Often forms thickets by root suckering.

**Looks like:** [bristly locust](#) - [New Mexican locust](#) - [honeylocust](#) - [pea tree](#)



**Additional Range Information:**  
*Robinia pseudoacacia* is native to North America. Range may be expanded by planting. [See states reporting black locust.](#)

**External Links:**  
[USDAFS Silvics of North America](#)  
[USDAFS Additional Silvics](#)  
[Landowner Factsheet](#)  
[USDA Plants Database](#)  
[Horticulture](#)

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 Photos and Text by: John Seiler, Edward Jensen, Alex Niemiera, and John Peterson.