

September 2009

Those of you who have grown *Quercus coccinea*, Scarlet Oak, have come to expect transplanting problems.

Well, your troubles are over. We now have Scarlet Oak, 5' - 6' whips available in TriTech root pruning containers. These trees will hit the ground running, so to speak. They will put on significant growth the first year, while those bare root oaks you planted just sit there.

For the Fall, we are offering these #3 container Scarlet Oak, as well as Pin Oak and Chinkapin Oak at a 10% discount.

See page 13 of our availability



It's Always Something with Those Arborist Guys

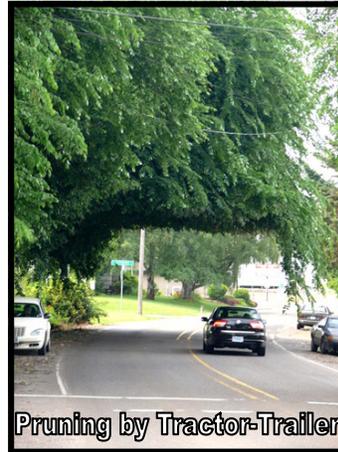
For many years now we've heard the saying 'right tree-right place'. So much so that it's become ingrained to consider more closely the attributes of a tree before we plant.

We have also heard the ditty: "Plant them low, never grow; Plant them high, watch them die; Plant the right, sleep at night."

It's been our friends the Arborists who have educated the public, landscapers and growers about the finer points of tree health. And who better. They see large trees with problems and trace these problems back to their beginnings. And it's the wise grower pays attention to new information. It's usually when we feel we



Pruning by Power Company



Pruning by Tractor-Trailer

know it all that we get into trouble.

For many years now I've heard grumbling from arborists about brushy trees. It seems that when we growers prune back canopies, we end up with very dense heads. That is, a canopy jam packed with limbs, twigs and leaves. Architects like this look because the tree appears more 'finished'.

We will have a healthier, better looking tree if, when we are pruning back branches, we take time to thin out the middle. An open inside of the canopy allows for more air circulation and makes the canopy less attractive to pathogens. It will also be less susceptible to wind throw.

Without so much brush, the canopy can be tied for shipping more easily, and it takes up less room in the truck.

Of course there are always a few exceptions. With Washington Hawthorne, it is what it is. You don't want to go sticking your arm into that canopy. You may not get it back in one piece.

A Good Read

For all you nurserymen who don't know, this industry started with a farmer-plant collector from Philadelphia named John Bartrum. He began collecting seed and plants in the 1720's and would send them to an English businessman and gardener. The wide variety of plant material from America soon had England in a swirl of gardening excitement. From this a science and an industry were born.

The Brother Gardeners

by Andrea Wulf