

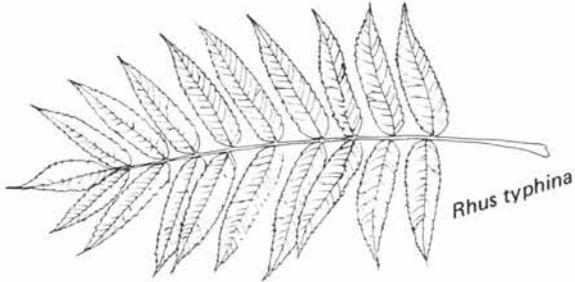
Leaves, Limbs, Needles and Boughs

by Fred D. Opperman

This month's selection is one that we all look forward to in the fall for its spectacular colors of orange, yellows and scarlets.

Rhus typhina (roos ti-fi'na) — Staghorn Sumac

Leaves: Alternate, compound, pinnate, 13 to 27 leaflets, often 19, entire leaf 1 to 2 inches long, each leaflet lance-oblong 2 to 5 inches long and 1 to 2 inches wide. Glaucous beneath, pubescent when young; petiole about 2" long and hairy.



Buds: Hairy, leaf scars not elevated and somewhat "C" shaped.

Stem: Stout, rounded, densely velvety hairy, concealing the lenticels, almost club-like; pith large yellowish white, aromatic when broken.

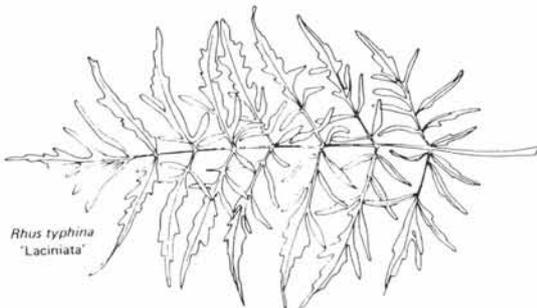


Size: 15 to 25' in a landscape situation, spread is usually equal to its height or greater.

Leaf Color: Bright green in summer and changing to the yellows, oranges and scarlets of fall.

Fruit: Crimson, late August through April, densely hairy drupe, closely packed in a pyramidal panicle.

Cultivars: "Dissecta" — Similar to "Laciniata", but leaflets more deeply divided; a fine textured ferny appearance.



Culture: Is easily transplanted, adapted to many soil types, but like so many of our plants, it prefers a well drained soil. Tolerates dry sterile soil, suckers profusely. This is a plant to be used in masses and naturalizing in out of the way areas.

Credit: "Manual of Woody Landscape Plants"

by Michael A. Dirr

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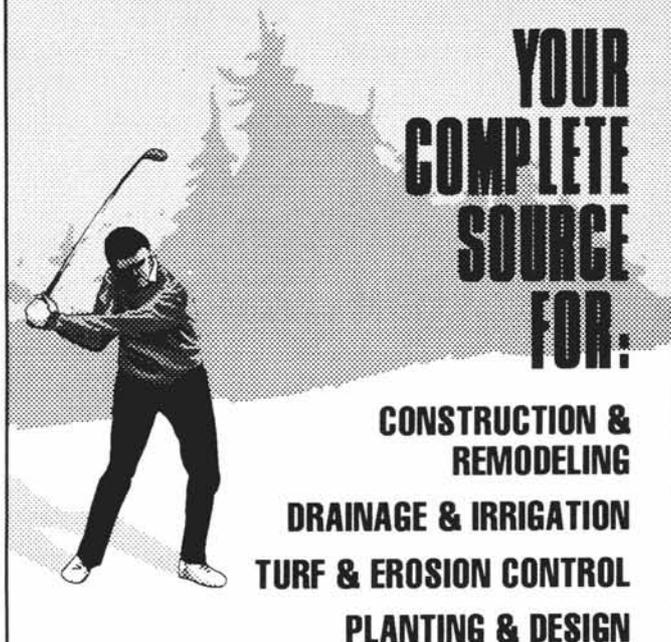
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