

TREES for Your COURSE

Here are 20 varieties that give ample shade and are easy on the maintenance budget

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The selection of trees and shrubs for a golf course can become rather involved. Besides beauty, such factors as soil, drainage, wind exposure, water availability and others have to be taken into account.

A supt., among others, wishes to avoid as much as possible early and heavy leaf drop, large, undesirable fruit, plants that create insect problems and other things that add to maintenance expense and cut down on the time the course is usable. Certainly, no golfer wants to constantly search for a ball that is nestled in a pile of leaves during the fall. Squashy fruits and berries that litter a course also can have an irritating effect.

The ideal tree for a course is one that gives some shade but not enough to prevent vigorous grass growth, has small leaves that disintegrate quickly upon

These leaves identify eight popular species that are ideal for planting on the course. They are (I to r and top to bottom): Marshall seedless ash; Golfenrain; Katsura; Lavelle hawthorne; Amur maple; Maiden-hair; European mountain ash; and Amur Cork.



The Imperial locust is an ideal tree for the course. It is distinguished by its shapeliness, admits filtered sunlight and permits vigorous turf arowth.

falling, has no objectionable fruits, transplants easily and is not subject to frost, wind and storm damage. The modern honeylocust comes as close as any to meeting these requirements. Newer selections of this species are ideal. North of the Columbus, Ohio latitude line, for example, this tree is beset by few insect problems. South of this line, the Mimosa webworm occasionally causes only a little trouble.

Of course, no one would want to see a golf course with only one type of tree. It would be most monotonous. So, it is advisable to look into other types. The Ginkgo, or maiden-hair tree, is a desirable one, provided male trees only are used. The female Ginkgo produces unpleasant fruits. (Yes, trees have a sex problem too.) These trees are not as easy to transplant as locusts, but in modest sizes, can be handled bare root.

The Katsura tree is another to be considered in a planting program. It has medium-size leaves that disintegrate quickly, and lovely golden fall coloring. As with the maiden-hair tree, transplanting is not too difficult. It would take too much space to describe the entire list of desirable trees, so we will simply name a few. The figure after the trees indicates estimated height at maturity.

Larger Trees

Sweet Gum, 60; Honeylocust — "Majestic", 60; Honeylocust — "Skyline", 50; Maiden-hair or Ginkgo Tree (Male only), 60; Katsura Tree, 60; Marshall's Seedless Green Ash, 60; Amur Cork Tree (Selected non-fruiting strain), 40; Christine Buisman Elm (Disease resistant), 60; Japanese Keaki Tree (Zelkova), 60; Black Gum (Very hard to transplant), 50.

Medium & Small Trees

Honeylocust — "Imperial", 35; Japanese Pagoda Tree, 35 to 40; Amur Maple, 18; Flowering Dogwood, 20; Lavelle Hawthorne (Tree form), 25; Washington Hawthorne (Tree form), 20; Golden Rain Tree, 25; Flowering Crabapples (Small fruited-tree form), 15 to 25; European Mountain Ash, 30; American Hophornbeam, 35.

Space doesn't permit description of the trees in the foregoing list, but any of the modern tree books describe most of them in detail. All would be acceptable for the average course. None of the lovely American elms is listed here. Unfortunately, the spread of Dutch elm disease and Phloem Necrosis has wiped these trees from the plantsman's list over most of the eastern part of the U.S. and the diseases are moving west.

Sunburst locust or Crimson King maple, both easily distinguishable, make fine marker trees. They can be planted on either or one side of a fairway and at uniform distances from greens and tees. They can be of some help to the average golfer in helping him to get lined up and undoubtedly are appreciated by lowhandicap players and pros.