White Oak
WHITE OAK
Quercus alba L.

FAMILY: Fagaceae

IDENTIFICATION CLUES

SIZE: large tree, up to 100 feet tall

LEAF: leaves are simple with 7 - 11 deep rounded lobes

FLOWER: very small; male and female flowers are separate-
female flowers are single; male flowers hang in clusters called
catkins

FRUIT: acorn, about 3/4 inches long

BARK: light gray with ridges or can be scaled and flaky

Where to Look

White oak is abundant in the mountains and piedmont of Georgia. It grows best in rich moist soil and is often found with other oaks and hickories.

Importance to Humans
Economically, white oak is one of our most important trees. The strong, hard wood is used for building, furniture, floors, farm tools, fencing and firewood.

Importance to Wildlife
The acorns of white oak are an important food source for many small mammals and the trees provide shelter and nesting sites.