


**black ash** *Oleaceae Fraxinus nigra* Marsh.  symbol: FRNI



**Leaf:** Opposite, pinnately compound, 7 to 11 sessile, serrated leaflets, whole leaf 10 to 14 inches long, dark green above, lighter below with tufts of brown hair.

**Flower:** Monoecious or with separate male and female trees, female flowers in loose panicles; males in tighter dense clusters, both appear before the leaves in early spring.

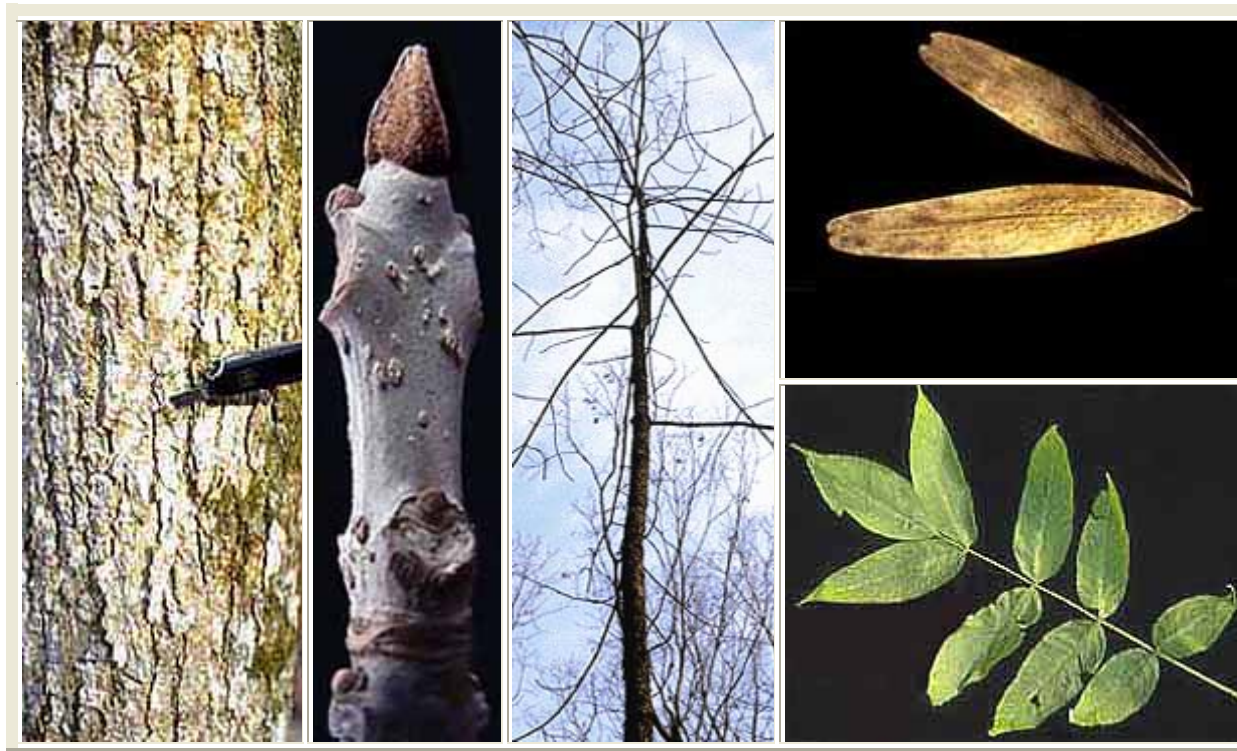
**Fruit:** Samara with a wide wing and an indistinct seed cavity, 1 to 1 1/2 inches long, borne in hanging clusters.

**Twig:** Stout, light brown to gray, opposite buds are nearly black, first lateral buds appear some distances below terminal, nearly circular leaf scar.

**Bark:** At first smooth, but becomes scaly to corky, gray-brown.

**Form:** Small to medium sized tree reaching up to 40 to 50 feet tall, usually with a slender crown.

**Looks like:** [green ash](#) - [white ash](#) - [blue ash](#) - [boxelder](#)



[USDAFS Silvics of North America](#) - [USDAFS Additional Silvics](#)  
- [USDA Plants Database](#)

*Fraxinus nigra* is native to North America. Range may be expanded by planting.  
[See states reporting black ash](#) (opens a new window).

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