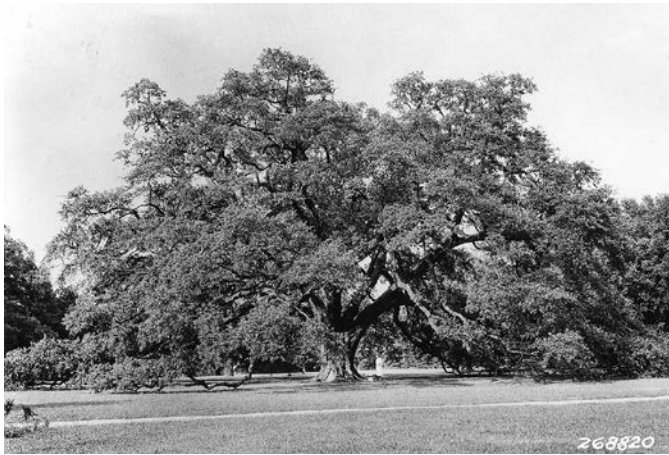


# ***Quercus virginiana***

## Live oak



### **Source:**

Friends of the Louisiana State Arboretum.  
*Featured Species*. For more information  
visit their website.

Natural Resources Conservation Service.  
*PLANTS Database*. United States Department  
of Agriculture.

### The Beech Family (Fagaceae)

Relatively large tree reaching 50-80 feet tall; known for wide, spreading branches; shiny, oblong, simple leaves; grayish brown scaly or blocky bark; and is deciduous, though seemingly evergreen.

**Habitat:** It prefers slightly damp clay, loam, or sand; and grows in warm climates found in southern U.S.

**Interesting Facts:** In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, live oak trees were used as ship-building material.

**Fruit:** The fruit has oblong, bright green acorns; and the cap covers 1/3 of acorn body.

**Flower:** Male flowers are yellow-green catkins; female flowers are spikes and bloom in spring.

**Wildlife value:** Live oak acorns are eaten by many animals, including waterfowl, turkeys, and deer.