

PERSIMMON

DIOSPYROS VIRGINIANA

The bark on this native tree resembles alligator skin with thick, short furrows that form square blocky ridges. Glossy dark green, simple leaves turn reddish-purple in the fall. In the late spring, yellow fragrant bell-shaped female flowers give way to orange edible fruit in the fall. The wood is dark brown, heavy, hard, shock resistant and commonly used for golf clubs.





TYPE:

Deciduous



SIZE:

60 feet high 35 feet wide



SUN:

Full sun to part shade



FLOWERS:

Small yellow bell shaped flowers are inconspicuous.



USDA ZONES:

4-9



ID TIPS:

Square blocky bark resembles alligator skin.



WILDLIFE VALUE:

Opossums, raccoons, skunks, deer and birds feed on the fruit.



INTERESTING FACT:

The genus name, Diospyros, means "fruit of the Gods" in Greek.





