

NOTES ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE OAKS  
AND THE BUCKEYE IN LA SALLE  
COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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While engaged in an ecological forest survey of a portion of La Salle County, the results of which have already been reported,<sup>1</sup> the writer's attention was attracted by the somewhat peculiar distribution of certain trees, principally species of *Quercus* and *Aesculus*. The survey covers the larger proportion of that part of the county lying north of the Illinois River and the parts of La Salle and Peru townships south of that stream. The exact limits of the survey are indicated in the maps accom-

<sup>1</sup> Fuller, Geo. D., and Strausbaugh, P. D., The forests of La Salle County, Ill., Trans. Ill. Acad. Sci. 12: 1920.

panying the report just cited and the following notes on species distribution may be regarded as an appendix to that paper. Collections were made of certain of the oaks of which 8 species were found within the county. Special attention was given to the black oaks *Quercus velutina* and *Q. ellipsoidalis* and to one or two other species of rare occurrence. Material of these collections, bearing the collection numbers, have been placed in the herbaria of the University of Illinois, at Urbana and of the Field Museum of Chicago. No attempt at completeness has been made but it is thought that the following notes may be worthy of record.

1. *Quercus alba* L., white oak. This species is found in all the upland forests often forming 40 to 60 per cent of the present stand.

2. *Q. macrocarpa* Michx., bur oak. This oak also occurs throughout the county in the upland forests and is rather abundant upon the drier flood plains. A form collected in Earl Township, Sect. 17, No. 1128, showed a particularly small acorn, another collection, No. 1117, was made in Earl Township, Sect. 8, and a third, No. 1109, in La Salle Township, Sect. 25, upon a stream terrace.

3. *Q. bicolor* Willd., swamp white oak. A single small stand of this species was found in Dimmick Township, Sect. 3, upon the flood plain of Vermilion Creek, Collection No. 1162.

4. *Q. Muhlenbergii* Engelm., yellow chestnut oak. The species is not abundant, forming a very small per cent of the stand and is apparently confined to the uplands near the Illinois and Fox Rivers. Collections: Peru Township, Sect. 19, No. 1133; La Salle Township, Sect. 11, No. 1134 and Dayton Township, Sect. 4, No. 1160.

5. *Q. rubra* L., red oak. Found throughout the county upon somewhat sheltered slopes, in ravines and upon the uplands most advanced in mesophytism.

6. *Q. velutina* Lam., black oak. This is the principal element forming the more xerophytic upland forests. It is abundant in Starved Rock Park and was collected in the following townships: Earl, No. 1126, and Serena

No. 1161. A specimen, No. 1112, collected in Troy Grove, Sect. 35, may be hybrid with *Q. ellipsoidalis*.

In this and the following species the writer is glad to acknowledge the assistance of Professor William Trelease in the identification of the collections.

7. *Q. ellipsoidalis* Hill, Hill's oak or Hill's black oak. This species is often confounded with the preceding from which it is not always easily distinguishable. Several varieties have been recognized by Trelease. It seems to be more plentiful in the northern half of the county and was collected in the following townships: Troy Grove, Sects. 11 and 18, Nos. 1101, 1106 and 1107; Earl, Sect. 8 and 17, Nos. 1120 and 1129, the latter being apparently var. *intermedia*; Utica, Sect. 7, No. 1155, and Dayton, Sect. 4, No. 1158.

8. *Q. imbricaria* Michx., shingle oak. Found occasionally along stream bluffs. Usually small in size. Collections: La Salle Township, Sect. 13, No. 1148, and Dayton Township, Sect. 4, No. 1159.

*Aesculus glabra* Willd., fetid buckeye. A single specimen was found in Troy Grove Township, No. 1110, a few scattering specimens near the town of Peru, but only south of the Illinois River did it become rather frequent in its occurrence.

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