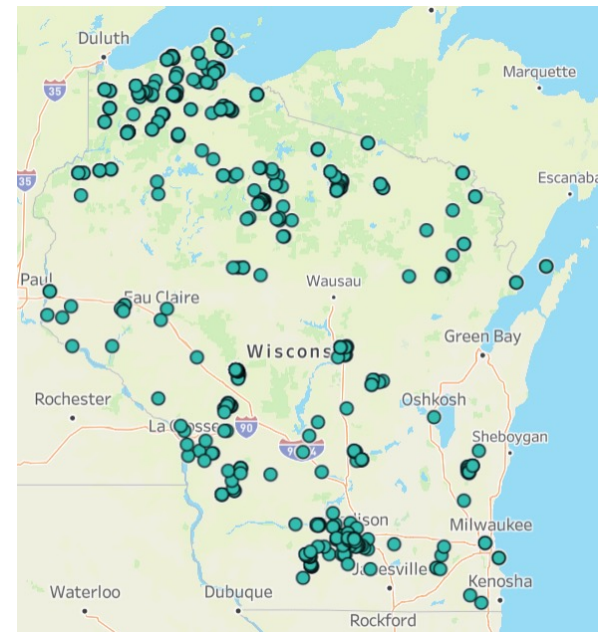


# Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)



2003 © Peter M. Dziuk

- Medium to large tree with fragrant flowers
- Habitats it invades:
  - Forests
  - Grasslands
  - Roadsides
- Status
  - Wisconsin: Restricted
  - Regulated in: MN





# Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)

***Leaves alternate, pinnately compound***

- 4–12” long, composed of 7–23 elliptic leaflets
- Leaflets have smooth margins, sometimes with a notch at the tip
- Usually with a pair of spines at base of each leaf

© 2012 Katy Chayka





# Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)

## Flower/fruit

- Flowers fragrant, white, pea-like, about 1" long.
- Flowers are borne in hanging clusters; June
- Fruit is bean-shaped, brown, and dry.



2003 © Peter M. Dziuk



# Black locust look alike

Black locust is one of three legume trees found in the wild in Wisconsin. It is the only one to produce showy, pea-like flowers and has the smallest fruits of all three.

Species	Flowers	Leaves and fruits
Bristly locust ( <i>Robinia hispida</i> ) I	Pink, pea-like	Pinnately compound leaves with 7-13 leaflets; small, prickly bean-like fruits
Black locust ( <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> ) I	<b>White</b> , pea-like	Pinnately compound leaves with 7-23 leaflets; <b>small</b> , smooth, <b>bean-like fruits</b>
Kentucky coffeetree ( <i>Gymnocladus dioica</i> ) N	White, spreading petals, <b>not pea-like</b>	<b>Twice pinnately compound leaves with over 30 leaflets; large, thick bean-like fruits</b>
Honey-locust ( <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> ) N	Yellowish green, small petals, <b>not pea-like</b>	<b>Once or twice pinnately compound leaves with many small leaflets; long, twisted, bean-like fruits</b>

# Black locust look alike



Renz Weed Science  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL & LIFE SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Bristly locust (*Robinia hispida*)



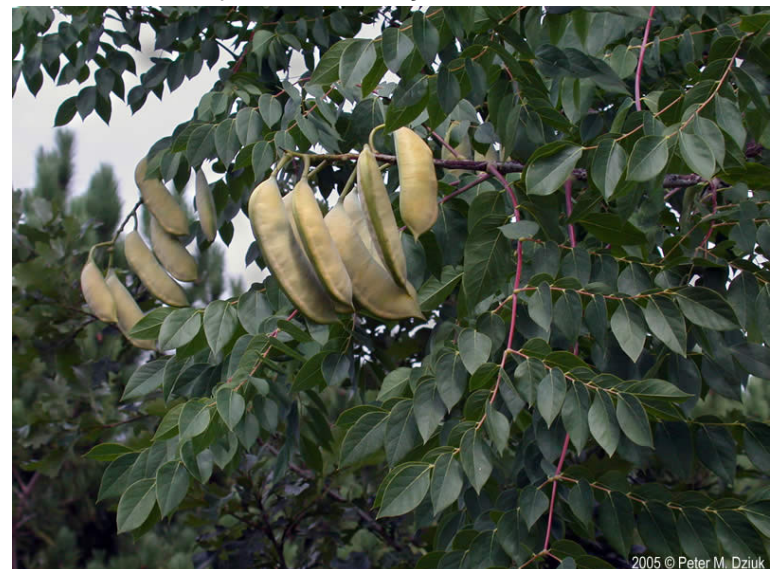
Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)



Honey-locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*)



Kentucky coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioica*)



# Black locust look alike



When young, black locust could also be mistaken with **native** prickly-ash. Prickly-ash differs in being a **clonal shrub**, being **dioecious**, **leaflets that are tapered at both ends**, **foliage that smells citrusy**, and **fruits that are red and fleshy**.

