



Agroforestry Species for Vermont
A project of the Farm to Plate Agroforestry Priority Strategy Team
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Suitability by Agroforestry Practice

Commercial fruits & nuts	Serviceberry; aronia; hickory; chestnut; hybrid hazel; walnut; apple & pear; mulberry, peach, cherry & plum; currants & gooseberry; elderberry; highbush blueberry
Commercial plantation timber & biomass	Walnut; Eastern red cedar; white pine; Eastern cottonwood; hybrid poplar; oaks; black locust; willows
Commercial other	Sugar maple (syrup); witch hazel (medicinal); elderberry (medicinal); highbush cranberry (medicinal)
Alley cropping	River locust; aronia; chestnut; hybrid hazel; walnut; apple & pear; white pine; Eastern cottonwood; hybrid poplar; peach, cherry & plum; oak; currants & gooseberries; black locust; elderberry; arborvitae
Contour hedgerow	River locust; aronia; mulberry; elderberry
Pollinator hedgerow	Serviceberry; river locust; red osier dogwood; apple & pear; American plum, peach, cherry & plum; chokecherry; black locust; willows; elderberry; highbush blueberry; highbush cranberry
Forest farming	Sugar maple; witch hazel; mulberry; currants & gooseberries; black locust
Urban food forest	Sugar maple; serviceberry; river locust; aronia; hickory; chestnut; hybrid hazel; witch hazel; walnut; apple & pear; mulberry; American plum; peach, cherry & plum; chokecherry; currants & gooseberries; black locust; elderberry; highbush blueberry; highbush cranberry
Windbreak	Sugar maple; serviceberry; river locust; aronia; hickory; red osier dogwood; hybrid hazel; honey locust; walnut; Eastern red cedar; mulberry; white pine; Eastern cottonwood; hybrid poplar; American plum; chokecherry; oaks; black locust; willows; elderberry; arborvitae; highbush cranberry
Living snow fence	Red osier dogwood; willows; arborvitae; highbush blueberry; Eastern red cedar; American plum
Silvopasture	Sugar maple; river locust; honey locust; walnut; mulberry; white pine; Eastern cottonwood; hybrid poplar; oaks; black locust; willows; elderberry
Tree fodder (leaves)	River locust; mulberry; Eastern cottonwood; hybrid poplar; black locust; willows
Tree fodder (mast)	Honey locust; mulberry; oaks
Living barn	Eastern red cedar; white pine; arborvitae
Riparian buffer	Sugar maple; serviceberry; aronia; hickory; red osier dogwood; honey locust; witch hazel; white pine; Eastern cottonwood; hybrid poplar; chokecherry; oaks; willows; elderberry; arborvitae; highbush blueberry; highbush cranberry
Waterbreak	River locust; aronia; red osier dogwood; honey locust; Eastern cottonwood; hybrid poplar; oaks; willows; elderberry; arborvitae; highbush blueberry; highbush cranberry

Recommended Species Details

*Functional agroforestry cultivars available.

Species	Commercial Products	Systems	Functions	Tolerances
Sugar maple <i>Acer saccharum</i>	Syrup	Windbreak, silvopasture, riparian buffer, forest farming, urban food forest	Native, conservation, wildlife (moderate), pollinators, caterpillars	Sand, shade
Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier spp.</i>	Fruit (some)	Pollinator hedgerow, urban food forest, windbreak, riparian buffer	Native, conservation, wildlife (high), erosion control, pollinators,	Dry, sand, poor drainage, acid, shade (depends on species)
River locust* <i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>		Alley cropping, contour hedgerow, pollinator hedgerow, urban food forest, windbreak, silvopasture, tree fodder, waterbreak	Nitrogen fixation, erosion control, pollinators	Wet, dry, sand, poor drainage, excessive drainage, acid, alkaline, flooding.
Aronia <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Fruit	Alley cropping, contour hedgerow, urban food forest, windbreak, riparian buffer, waterbreak	Native, conservation, erosion control, pollinators	Wet, dry, sand, clay, poor drainage, excessive drainage, acid, flooding
Hickory <i>Carya spp.</i>	Nuts, oil	Urban food forest, windbreak, riparian buffer	Native, conservation, erosion control, wildlife (moderate), caterpillars	Wet, dry, sand, excessive drainage, acid (depends on species)
Chestnut <i>Castanea spp.</i>	Nuts	Alley cropping, urban food forest	Caterpillars	Sand, acid
Red osier dogwood* <i>Cornus sericea</i>		Pollinator hedgerow, windbreak, living snow fence, riparian buffer, waterbreak	Native, conservation, erosion control, bank stabilization, wildlife (high), pollinators	Wet, alkaline, flood, shade

Hybrid hazel <i>Corylus spp.</i>	Nuts	Alley cropping, urban food forest, windbreak	Caterpillars	Sand, clay, acid
Honey locust* <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>		Windbreak, silvopasture, fodder tree, riparian buffer, waterbreak	Erosion control, pollinators	Dry, clay, poor drainage, flood
Witch hazel <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Medicinal	Forest farming, urban food forest, windbreak, riparian buffer	Native, conservation, erosion control, pollinators	Dry, sand, alkaline
Walnut <i>Juglans spp.</i>	Nuts, veneers, lumber	Alley cropping, urban food forest, windbreak, silvopasture	Native (some), conservation, wildlife (medium to high), caterpillars	Clay, alkaline (depends on species)
Eastern red cedar <i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Lumber, posts, veneers	Windbreak, living snow fence, living barn	Native, conservation, erosion control, wildlife (high)	Dry, sand, clay, excessive drainage
Apple & pear <i>Malus pumila, Pyrus spp.</i>	Fruit	Alley cropping, pollinator hedgerow, urban food forest	Pollinators, caterpillars	
Mulberry* <i>Morus alba & M. rubra</i>	Fruit	Contour hedgerow, forest farming, urban food forest, windbreak, silvopasture, tree fodder	Native (some), erosion control	Dry, sand (depends in species)
White pine <i>Pinus strobus</i>	Lumber, veneers, pulpwood	Alley cropping, windbreak, silvopasture, living barn, riparian buffer	Native, conservation, erosion control, wildlife (high), caterpillars	Sand, clay, poor drainage, acid, shade
Eastern cottonwood* <i>Populus deltoides</i>	Lumber, veneers, pulpwood, biomass	Alley cropping, windbreak, silvopasture, tree fodder, riparian buffer, waterbreak	Native, conservation, erosion control, bank stabilization, wildlife (moderate), caterpillars	Wet, sand, clay, poor drainage, excessive drainage, flood, shade
Hybrid poplar* <i>Populus hybrids</i>	Lumber, veneers, pulpwood, biomass	Alley cropping, windbreak, silvopasture, tree fodder, riparian buffer, waterbreak	Erosion control, caterpillars	Wet, sand, clay, poor drainage, excessive drainage, flood (depends on cultivar)
American plum* <i>Prunus americana</i>		Pollinator hedgerow, urban food forest, windbreak, living snow fence	Native, erosion control, pollinators, caterpillars	Dry, acid
Peach, cherry, plum <i>Prunus spp.</i>	Fruit	Alley cropping, pollinator hedgerow, urban food forest	Pollinators, caterpillars	
Chokecherry* <i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Fruit	Pollinator hedgerow, urban food forest, windbreak, riparian buffer	Native, conservation, erosion control, pollinators, caterpillars	Dry, sand, clay, acid, alkaline, shade
Oaks* <i>Quercus spp.</i>	Lumber, veneers	Alley cropping, windbreak, silvopasture, tree fodder (mast), riparian forest buffer, waterbreak	Native, conservation, erosion control, wildlife (very high), caterpillars	Dry, sand, clay, flood (depends on species)
Currants & Gooseberry <i>Ribes spp.</i>	Fruit	Alley cropping, forest farming, urban food forest	Pollinators	Acid, shade
Black locust* <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Lumber, posts, pulpwood, biomass	Alley cropping, pollinator hedgerow, forest farming, urban food forest, windbreak, silvopasture, tree fodder	Nitrogen fixation, erosion control, pollinators	Dry, sand, excessive drainage, acid
Willows* <i>Salix spp.</i>	Pulpwood, biomass	Alley cropping, pollinator hedgerow, windbreak, living snow fence, silvopasture, tree fodder, riparian buffer, waterbreak	Native (some), conservation, erosion control, bank stabilization, wildlife (medium), pollinators, caterpillars	Wet, sand, clay, poor drainage, acid, flood (depends on species)
Elderberry* <i>Sambucus spp.</i>	Fruit, medicinal	Alley cropping, contour hedgerow, pollinator hedgerow, urban food forest, windbreak, silvopasture, riparian buffer, waterbreak	Native (some), conservation, erosion control, wildlife (high), pollinators	Wet, dry, sand, clay, poor drainage, acid, flood
Arborvitae* <i>Thuja occidentalis</i>		Alley cropping, windbreak, living snow fence, living barn, riparian buffer, waterbreak	Native, conservation, erosion control, wildlife (medium)	Wet, clay, flood, shade
Highbush blueberry <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	Fruit	Pollinator hedgerow, urban food forest, living snow fence, riparian buffer, waterbreak	Native, conservation, erosion control, wildlife (high), pollinators, caterpillars	Wet, dry, sand, clay, poor drainage, acid, flood
Highbush cranberry* <i>Viburnum opulus americanum</i>	Medicinal	Pollinator hedgerow, urban food forest, windbreak, riparian buffer, waterbreak	Native, conservation, erosion control, wildlife (medium), pollinators	Wet, clay, poor drainage, flood