

Quercus leucotrichophora

Botanical name: *Quercus leucotrichophora*

Common name: Banj Oak, Himalayan Oak

Morphological characters:

A medium-sized tree, usually attaining about 15 m in height, occasionally 24 m. Young seedlings up to two years old are very shade-tolerant, thereafter the tree needs moderate to full light. It needs moderately fertile soils, growing well on clays derived from shales and clay loams, but does not do well on dry sites. It is sensitive to fires and browsing. Up to a diameter of 25-30 cm the tree coppices well, but larger trees coppice badly if at all. It is one of the species found in regrowth of degraded Schima-Castanopsis woodland.



Growing season and type:

1. The seed ripens between November and March, according to the locality, but ripe seed may remain on the trees for several months.
2. *Quercus leucotrichophora* is best adapted to regions with a mild and moist climate.
3. In the Himalayas, the banj oak is found at altitudes between 1500 and 2400 m above sea level.
4. It thrives on loamy and clayey soils but not on sandy acidic soils.
5. It does better on soils with a pH ranging from neutral to basic (alkaline soils).
6. Young trees do well under shade while older trees require more sunlight.



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1. Foliage and fallen acorn cups of *Quercus leucotrichophora*
2. Leaves of *Quercus leucotrichophora*
3. *Quercus leucotrichophora* plant