

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Carya laciniosa

[Synonyms : *Hicoria laciniosa*, *Juglans laciniosa*]

SHELLBARK HICKORY is a tree. Native to North America it has greenish flowers.

It is also known as Big shellbark, King-nut, and *Ořechovec dřípatý* (Czech).

Laciniosa is derived from Latin *lacer* (torn, mangled) meaning ‘fringed or very deeply cut, torn or slashed into narrow divisions’.

Records indicate that the Cherokee North American Indians ate the nuts.

Both the Cherokee and the Omaha tribes are said to have used the inner bark of this species in the same way as that of bitternut (*Carya cordiformis*). The former according to authorities used the inner bark for making chair seats and for weaving baskets. For the latter it could be found in their snowshoes.

The strong wood seems to have been an alternative to mockernut (*Carya tomentosa*) for the Cherokees as they used this also for making blowgun darts and arrow shafts, tool handles, barrel hoops and cooking tools, as well as for fuel

As regards to any medicinal value shellbark hickory appears to have been interchangeable with mockernut (*Carya tomentosa*) for the Cherokees here too. It could provide a treatment for colds, poliomyelitis pain, sore mouths and some female problems, a bark infusion was taken to encourage supple limbs, and the bark was applied to cuts.