

Mulberry
Morus rubra



Description: Small to medium sized tree (to 50 feet tall, 1+ feet diam.), crown broadly rounded. Leaves variable in shape with toothed edges. Fruit a distinctive multiple long red berries. Root bark is yellow

Leaves: Alternate, simple, formed singly on leafstalks to 1 ½ inches. Blades 3-5 inches long, nearly as wide; edges coarsely toothed; shape variable-heart-shaped, single mitten, double mitten. Dark blue-green and rough above, paler and hairy below; turn bright pale-yellow in autumn

Bark: Thin, dark brown; divided into long scaly plates on mature trees

Flowers: Unisexual, sexes on same or separate trees, clustered in hanging spikes; flower as leaves unfold in May

Fruits: (forms from several individual flowers), green to red to purple to black as they mature in June/July; long (to 1 ½ inches) and drooping. Edible, sweet, and juicy-loved by birds, squirrels, and humans. A tiny hard seed in each section of berry. Bird-scattered

Habitat/Range: Moist woods, especially along streams. Fencerows, old fields, and waste areas. Common in cities although seldom planted there. Throughout Indiana