

OAK TREE GERMINATION

NOTES

Life Stages of an Oak Tree

acorn - seedling - sapling - adult tree

The tree becomes a sapling when it reaches a height of six feet (1.8 meters) and its trunk becomes one to two inches (2.5 to 5 centimeters) thick.

Acorn Germination

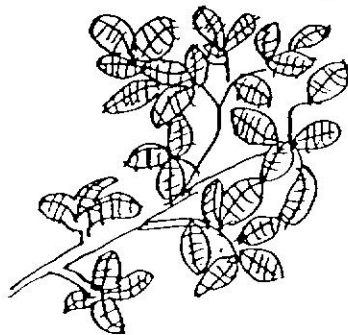
1. acorn husk decays
2. roots rupture the hull
3. roots grow downward
4. roots anchor themselves in the soil
5. a shoot grows out of the hull
6. cotyledons provide food
7. true leaves emerge and seedling feeds itself through photosynthesis

Factors Affecting Growth

1. adequate sunlight
2. competition from grasses and weeds
3. diseases
4. insects
5. grazing animals
6. weather conditions

Acorn Planting

1. put acorns in a bucket of water
 - a. if float - toss
 - b. if sink - keep
2. plant acorns in well aerated soil with good drainage
3. set acorn on its side just below the surface
4. keep soil moist but give plants adequate sun



Quercus agrifolia



soil
surface

