



## Common Persimmon

## Diospyros virginiana

Height: 40-60' | Spread: 25-35' | Light: ♥-♥ | Moisture: dry-med (well-draining)

The American, or common, persimmon produces a sweet, edible fruit best enjoyed after it softens after the first frost in late autumn. When ripe, the sweet fruit of somewhat recalls the flavor of dates. Immature fruit contains tannin and are strongly astringent. Persimmons are consumed fresh and are used to make puddings, cakes, and beverages. Because the persimmon is normally *dioecious* (male and female flowers appear on separate trees), the best way to ensure fruit production is to plant multiple trees. Mature trees are easily identifiable by thick, dark-gray bark that is deeply furrowed and broken into scaly, squarish blocks.



Photos: T. Davis Sydnor, The Ohio State University; Bugwood.org