



## Mahogany

*Swietenia mahagoni*

**Height:** 60 to 75 ft. typically

**Spread:** 40 to 60 ft.

**Light requirement:** full sun

**Soil tolerances:** clay; sand; loam; acidic; alkaline; prefers well-drained soil

**Drought tolerance:** high

**Aerosol salt tolerance:** high

**Roots:** not a problem

**Outstanding tree:** yes

**Ozone sensitivity:** unknown

**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** unknown

Mahogany trees are very resistant to hurricane damage if properly trained to develop a central leader. They are fast-growing shade trees developing an impressive canopy, but shed leaves twice per year so they are better suited located away from paved areas which have to be frequently swept. Mahogany trees also provide great backyard habitat for birds.

Send us your questions: [sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu)

(Ref: UF/IFAS EDIS Factsheet

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st608> Photo credit: Ed

Gilman)



## 12-Step Tree Adoption Aftercare Program

1. Look up! Avoid planting under overhead power wires and streetlights.
2. Call 811 to locate underground utilities, before digging a hole.
3. Select a planting location at least 6-8 ft. from pavements, & 15 feet from the nearest building.
4. Dig a hole 2-3 times WIDER, but the SAME length/depth as the root ball.
5. Gently remove root ball from container and check for root defects e.g. circling roots; if present, slit circling roots at diagonal points of an 'X' around the root ball.
6. Carefully place tree in the planting hole and position top of root ball 1-2 inches above the soil level.
7. Straighten the tree.
8. Half-fill the planting hole with soil.
9. Fill planting hole with water to get rid of air pockets.
10. Finish backfilling the hole with soil.
11. Add mulch in an 8 ft. diameter 'doughnut' around the tree but keep it away from touching the trunk.
12. Water (1 gallon) daily first 2 weeks; next 2 months - every other day; next 3 months - weekly.

For more information, watch this video:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Dmmaemw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Dmmaemw4io)

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