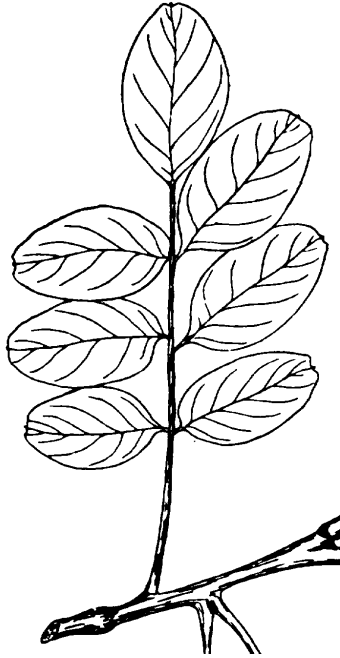


BLACK LOCUST

Robinia pseudoacacia L.

Black locust is not a native of this state, but is extensively planted. It is abundant in some localities and is found mostly near dwellings or on abandoned farmlands, where it often becomes naturalized. The locust is a rapid grower, frequently attaining a height of 20 feet in 10 years, but increasing much more slowly thereafter. It reaches a height of about 50 feet and a diameter of 8-20 inches. The branches are small, brittle, occasionally multi-angled, and at first are armed with stipular spines. The top is narrow and oblong. It is one of the last trees to send out foliage in the spring. The **bark** on old trees is dark brown, deeply furrowed and broken into small scales.

The **leaves** are alternate, once compound, 8-14 inches long; have 7-19 leaflets which are about two inches long with an entire margin and a slightly notched tip. The **flowers** are borne in loose racemes 4-5 inches long and appear in June. They are showy and very fragrant. The **fruit** is a smooth, flat, dark purplish brown pod about 3 inches long, containing from 1-8 beanlike seeds. The **wood** is heavy close-grained, strong, and very durable in contact with the soil. It is used for fence posts, small building construction, and planking for boats.



CLAMMY LOCUST

Robinia viscosa Vent.

Clammy locust is another species not native to Maine. It is found near dwellings and is distinguished from other locusts by the sticky material covering the twigs. It has been planted extensively for erosion control.