



Considered a symbol of strength, the oak tree is sometimes called the king of trees. It is our National Tree dedicated by Congress in 2004.

The oak trees growing in Charro thrive in various combinations of dry, sandy, gravelly soil, and clay. All can tolerate drought and extreme heat and cold, making them well adapted to the Texas Hill Country.

Oak tree acorns provide food for squirrels, deer, wild turkey, and other wildlife. They also provide nesting sites for birds such as titmice and chickadees. Some are larval hosts for butterflies and other insects.

Three of the more common oak species seen at Charro

Post Oak (*Quercus stellata*)

Deciduous
 Height: 30–50 ft.
 Acorn production: heavy every 2-3 years.
 The post oak straight limbs made them a favorite for fence builders giving them their name.
 The wood is used for smoking meats in Central Texas.



Blackjack Oak (*Quercus marilandica*)

Deciduous
 Height: 20–45 feet but usually smaller.
 Acorn production: every 2 years.
 Bark resembles alligator hide and the leaf shape looks like a duck's foot.
 Fire tolerant and one of the first trees to appear after a fire.



Texas Live Oak (*Quercus fusiformes*)

Semi-deciduous meaning they drop a portion of their leaves each year.
 Height: 20–50 ft.
 Acorn production: yearly.
 Prone to oak wilt—do not prune February to June.
 Live oaks can reproduce through seed dispersal or cloning where new trees sprout from the root system.

