


common fig *Moraceae Ficus carica* L.  **symbol: FICA**


Leaf: Alternate, simple, deciduous; 5 inches in diameter, but sometimes larger; palmately lobed with (usually) 5 finger-like lobes, dark green above and lighter green below, petiole exudes a milky sap, somewhat scabrous, margins entire and wavy.

Flower: Either male and female or all female, flowers not showy, green, fleshy and rounded, the actual flowers minute, located on the inner surface of a hollow receptacle. Generally not pollinated in North America because the pollinating wasp is not present.

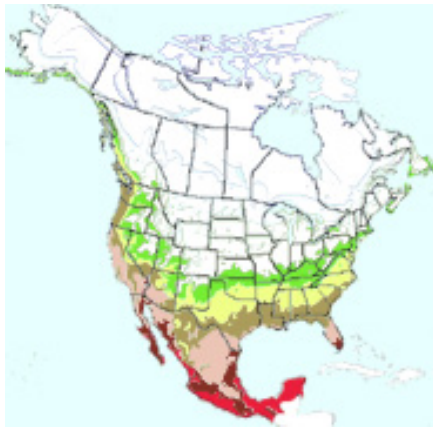
Fruit: An edible fig; purple-brown, pear- or onion-shaped, and somewhat leathery when mature, succulent, 1 to 2 inches, technically a multiple of tiny drupes; produced in two distinct crops - an early crop that arises from old wood and a late summer crop that arises from new wood; delicious.

Twig: Stout, new growth may be somewhat pubescent, leaf scars nearly round, terminal bud conical, wrapped in a single cap-like scale that leaves a bud scale scar that nearly encircles the twig. Resting buds apparently form after each leaf is formed. On overwintering twigs, flower buds are nearly round.

Bark: Smooth and silvery gray, somewhat warty.

Form: A broadly spreading shrub or small tree with a height of 25 feet and a width greater than or equal to the height.





[USDA Plants Database](#)

Ficus carica is planted in the highlighted [USDA hardiness zones](#) to the left and may seed into the landscape. [See a map of the states in which common fig has escaped](#) (opens a new window).

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