



photos: Dan Jaffe

BLACK GUM

Nyssa sylvatica

Attractive, slow-growing tree with waxy leaves.
Beautiful blue berries and showy scarlet-colored fall foliage.

Growing Information

Sunlight Sun, part shade, shade
Soil Type Moist, tolerates poor drainage,
but can adapt to drier sites
Height 30-50'
Flowering calendar May to June

Benefits for People

- Striking fall colors

Natural Habitat

- Low, wet woods

Benefits for Wildlife

Leaves Yes
Flowers Yes
Fruit Yes
Seeds Yes

Host to 28 caterpillar species, including:
(common names) The Hebrew; Luna Moth;
Spiny Oak-Slug Moth; Cecropia Silkmoth;
Whitemarked Tussock Moth

