

Walk the arboretum and discover some of the interesting fruits and seeds. Try looking on low hanging branches and amongst the leaf litter. How many can you find?

1 Giant Redwood (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*)

Can grow to be some of the largest trees in the world. Seeds are shed from the cone when it dries after hot weather or the heat of a forest fire, around 230 seeds per cone. (North America)



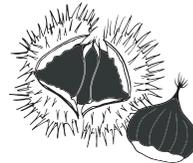
2 Common Oak (*Quercus robur*)

This veteran 'English Oak' is estimated to be over 350 years old and predates the arboretum, being planted as part of a former deer park. Look for the classic acorns on long stalks, each taking 6 months to ripen. (Europe)



3 Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*)

These edible chestnuts are encased in a very spiky casing. Unlike most nuts, chestnuts largely contain starch rather than protein, and are also a rich source of vitamin C. (Southern Europe and Asia Minor)



4 Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)

Also known as 'gum balls', these spherical spiny fruit are composed of 40-60 seed capsules. Sweetgums are known for their beautiful autumn leaf colours of reds, yellows and dark purples. (North and Central America)



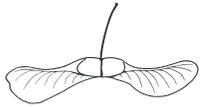
5 Caucasian Alder (*alnus subcordata*)

A beautiful tree with a gently twisting trunk. This alder has large leaves and distinctive large cones, larger than our native alders, containing numerous small winged seeds. (Iran and the Caucasus)



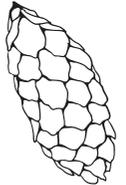
6 Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)

The fruit are formed of two winged seeds. The seeds and leaves are similar to our native field maple, though much larger and with pointed tips to each leaf lobe. (Europe and western Asia)



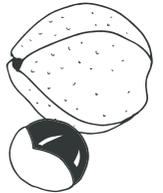
7 Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*)

One of the tallest conifer species, frequently planted for timber due to its typically tall and straight trunk. Cones hang down from the branches, containing black seeds, with a slender pale brown wing. (North America)



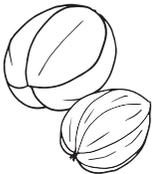
8 Japanese Chestnut (*Aesculus turbinata*)

Similar to our native chestnut but with exceptionally large leaves. The chestnuts look similar to common horse chestnuts (aka conkers), though are enclosed in smooth casings. (Japan)



9 Shellbark Hickory (*Carya laciniosa*)

The nuts, largest of all hickory nuts, are sweet and edible, though prove very hard to crack. Also known as kingnut. (North America)



10 Turkey Oak (*Quercus cerris*)

The acorns of this oak have distinctive 'hairy' cups, and take 18 months to ripen. You may just find fragments of the cups discarded by squirrels. (South-eastern Europe and Turkey)



11 Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*)

As its name suggests, this species is known for its stunning red autumn leaves. Unlike our native oaks, these acorns take two years to ripen. (North America)



