**Leaf:** Opposite, pinnately compound, 7 to 11 ovate to elliptical leaflets, entire leaf 11 to 14 inches, shiny dark green above, much paler below.  
**Flower:** Upright cluster of small maroon to yellow-green flowers, cluster 2 to 3 inches long, appearing in late spring to early summer.  
**Fruit:** Black 3/8 inch diameter drupe in clusters, ripen in early fall and persist through the winter.  
**Twig:** Stout, lustrous brown, numerous lighter lenticels; large raised U-shaped leaf scars encircles a fuzzy brown broadly conical bud; inner bark of twigs bright yellow.  
**Bark:** Dark gray, ridged and furrowed, becomes quite thick with corky ridges.  
**Form:** A medium sized tree (50 feet), with a spreading often flat-topped crown.