

Pecan

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Carya illinoensis

Scientific classification

Kingdom: [Plantae](#)
Division: [Magnoliophyta](#)
Class: [Magnoliopsida](#)
Order: [Fagales](#)
Family: [Juglandaceae](#)
Genus: [Carya](#)
Species: ***C. illinoensis***

Binomial name

Carya illinoensis
(Wangenh.) K.Koch

Pecan nut shell

The **pecan** (*Carya illinoensis*) is a species of [hickory](#) nut, native to south-central [North America](#), in the [United States](#) from southern [Iowa](#), [Illinois](#) and [Indiana](#) east to western [Kentucky](#), [North Carolina](#) and western [Tennessee](#), south through [Georgia](#), [Alabama](#), [Mississippi](#), [Louisiana](#), [Texas](#), [Oklahoma](#) and [Arkansas](#); and in [Mexico](#) from [Coahuila](#) south to [Jalisco](#) and [Veracruz](#).

"Pecan" is from an [Algonquian](#) word, meaning a nut requiring a stone to crack.^[1]

Pecans are often used in cooking in the [Southern United States](#). A common dessert there is [pecan pie](#).

References

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

- ↑ "[History of Pecans](#)". *U.S. Pecans*. Archived from [the original](#) on 2021-03-25. Retrieved 2021-07-12.

[Wikispecies](#) has information on: ***Carya illinoensis***.

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