Gymnocladus dioicus

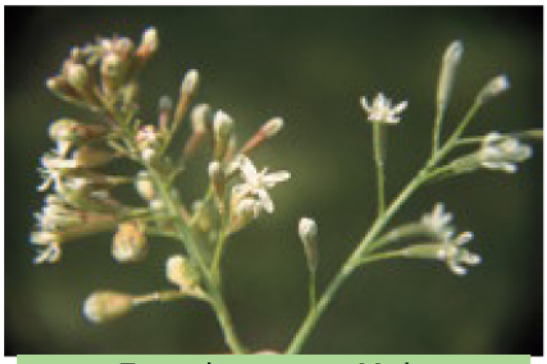
Kentucky Coffee Tree

Zone: 4-8

Height: 60′

Width: 45′

Crown: Oval, open
Growth Rate: Medium
Soil: Very adaptable
Roots: Not a problem



Female Male

Flowers

While Coffee Tree is an impressive mature tree, nurserymen should note that as with all members of the Pea family, this is not an easy tree to grow. It will resist any attempt to straighten the leader. It may be 2″ caliper and 16 feet tall with only two lateral branches. It branches at irregular intervals and may look a mess compared to an Acer or a Tilia. So you can either spend money and time trying to tame it, or let it do it's thing. Your customer may gripe about it but you'll have to educate him. Given time, this tree will win the hearts and minds of landscapers. And why? There seems to be no pests or disease for this species. It's growth rate is medium once established. You'll have to admit that even though it is a crazy grower, the structure of the · mature tree is sound.