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BIO 140 Arboretum Project

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Quercus cerris (Turkey Oak) ID# Unknown

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Arboretum Project: Turkey Oak

By: Erin Stangel

Common Name: Turkey Oak

Scientific Name: *Quercus cerris*

Tree Number:

Location: near McKillop Library

Height: 41.49 meters

DBH: 4.25 meters

Radius of crown: 14.3 meters

Condition: Good

Age Class: Mature

Date of Observation: November 27,
2017



Observation 1: September 18th, 2017

Third week of classes at Salve.

Temperature is almost 80 degrees fahrenheit.

Time is about 4:00 pm.

The Turkey Oak is huge, and it has a very distinct burl at the base of its trunk, most likely do to an injury when it was young. The tree appears to be extremely healthy and thriving. The leaves are the same as most oaks: long and lobed with smooth tips, about 12 cm in length ("Turkish Oak | Quercus Cerris"). The color of the leaves are dark green and the branches are a hard to observe because the tree is so tall.

The oak is surrounded by many trees including other Turkey Oaks and it creates a lot of shade for the surrounding area.

It is too early in the season for any leaves to fall.



Observation 2: September 28, 2017

Fourth week of classes at Salve.

The temperature is about 75 degrees fahrenheit.

Time is about 4:00 pm.

The Turkey oak is about the same as the last observation. The temperature has not fluctuated much but there was a lot of rain when around the 20th/21st when Jose hit Rhode Island. Many leaves were lost prematurely due to the high wind speeds and hard rainfall.

The Turkey Oak seeds are acorns and will come in around September. The acorns can be easily identified by their bristly caps (“*Quercus Cerris* (European Turkey Oak): Go Botany”).



Observation 3: October 8, 2017

Sixth week of classes at Salve.

The temperature has remained at about 70 degrees fahrenheit.

There has not been a transition of color in the leaves yet. The tree appears the same as in the last few entries.



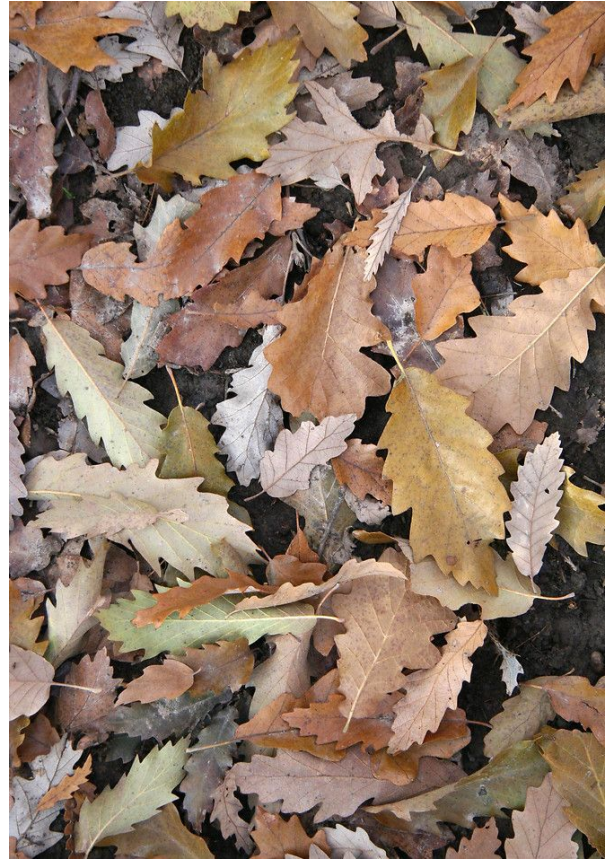
(“*Quercus Cerris* - Turkey Oak (Fagaceae Images)”)

Observation 4: October 28, 2017

Eighth week of classes at Salve.

The temperature has dropped to about 50 degrees fahrenheit.

The leaves have officially transitioned into fall colors. The leaf colors differ between browns and oranges.



("Quercus Cerris (European Turkey Oak): Go Botany")

Observation 5: November 8, 2017

Tenth week of classes at Salve.

The temperature has been low around 30 and 40 degrees fahrenheit.

All of the surrounding trees have also lost their leaves and the Turkey Oak will not flower until May. The flowers of the Turkey Oak are catkins and are pollinated by the wind ("Turkey Oak (*Quercus Cerris*) - Woodland Trust").



Observation 6: November 28, 2017

Thirteenth week of classes at Salve.

Temperature has fluctuated this week from low 30s to about 60 degrees fahrenheit. It has rained a lot recently but most days have had sun.

Time is about 12 pm.

All of the leaves as stated in the previous entry have either fallen off of the Turkey Oak or have died and remain on the branches.



Summary narrative:

The Turkey Oak is a non native species to Rhode Island, most commonly found in parts of Europe and Asia. Similar to most deciduous trees, the Turkey Oak's leaves change color in the late fall and fall from the branches throughout the winter. The Turkey Oak has long, smooth lobed leaves and the fruits of the Turkey Oak are acorns and the flowers are catkins ("Turkey Oak (Quercus Cerris) - Woodland Trust"). This specific Turkey Oak has done well on the Salve Regina campus it is about 41 meters in height, the crown radius is about 14.3 meters, and according to the Salve arboretum inventory the tree is mature and in good condition (Bartlett Tree Experts).

References:

"Turkey Oak (Quercus Cerris) - Woodland Trust." Accessed December 3, 2017.

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<https://gobotany.newenglandwild.org/species/quercus/cerris/>.

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