

Quercus suber L. Fagaceae :(Cork Oak) :1 accession (1 lineage: 20140966): 20140966 ... SD wild collected in Portugal: Marvao: From M1033 turn left up track from 100 meters and : take right fork, proceed to the end. Enormous oak immediately: behind tiled barn to the left of the main square house. : 39°24'50.2092"N, 7°24'5.18765"W. Peter Eden s.n. 1 Nov 2014.: A NW26-1.3 2014 2015 30 questionable. : Eden, P. To be grown as part of the conflicting seeds project.

Quercus suber L. Fagaceae :(Cork Oak) :1 accession (1 lineage: 20140935): 20140935 ... SD wild collected in Portugal : Portugal: Ribatejo. João Carvalho s.n. 1 Jul 2014. : A NW26-1.3 2014 2014 12 questionable. : Carvalho, J. To be grown as part of the conflicting seeds project.

Cork oak *Quercus suber*, Portugal



(picture credits: Pete the Poet via [Flickr creative commons](#), Gino Cherchi via [Flickr creative commons](#), Rui Malheiro via [Flickr creative commons](#))

Seed type and characteristics:

- Produces acorns once a year. The acorns are 2-3 cm long, and sit in a deep cup fringed with elongated scales.¹
- Produce both annual and biennial acorns²
- *Quercus suber* acorns should be collected in the autumn when green. The viability of acorns can decline very quickly.³

Seed germination conditions⁴:

- At Kew *Q. suber* acorns are sown in air pots, in an open, gritty mix, and kept in a cool glasshouse in natural light. Some are also sown directly into the Arboretum Nursery field where they are protected from mice and squirrels. In the glasshouse, seeds germinate after around 6-8 weeks, whilst those in the field do not germinate until the following spring.
- The germination success rate is generally higher in the cool glasshouse than outdoors.
- Over-watering can rot the seed before germination is completed, so the watering regime has to be carefully monitored.

Sapling growing requirements⁵:

- Several approaches are taken for growing the young seedlings, with some being potted on into larger pots and others being planted into the Arboretum Nursery field in late spring. After about three years, the seedlings are large enough to be planted into the garden collection.
- For about the first ten years, the young plants are protected by netting while they establish.

CCI partners, with lead partner:

Cork oak habitats in Portugal (*montado*) are the focus of a CCI collaboration:

<http://www.conservation.cam.ac.uk/collaboration/mediterranean-wood-pastures-biodiversity---making-lynx>, involving FFI, the Department of Plant Sciences and the Department of Geography, plus FFI's Portuguese partner Liga para a Protecção da Natureza (LPN) (<http://www.lpn.pt/>). Part of this work has involved surveys of the fauna and flora (birds, plants and butterflies) associated with *montado*, so this collaboration should be able to help with species lists.

¹ <http://www.kew.org/science-conservation/plants-fungi/quercus-suber-cork-oak>

² Aronson, J. et al. (2009) *Cork Oak Woodlands on the Edge*. Island Press.

[http://books.google.co.uk/books?hl=en&lr=&id=z-](http://books.google.co.uk/books?hl=en&lr=&id=z-ND18cujaUC&oi=fnd&pg=PR7&dq=cork+oak+ecology&ots=dQEas8DCke&sig=7EFfh2II2uJpQe6NxN2GC0okt1s#v=onepage&q&f=true)

[ND18cujaUC&oi=fnd&pg=PR7&dq=cork+oak+ecology&ots=dQEas8DCke&sig=7EFfh2II2uJpQe6NxN2GC0okt1s#v=onepage&q&f=true](http://books.google.co.uk/books?hl=en&lr=&id=z-ND18cujaUC&oi=fnd&pg=PR7&dq=cork+oak+ecology&ots=dQEas8DCke&sig=7EFfh2II2uJpQe6NxN2GC0okt1s#v=onepage&q&f=true)

³ <http://www.kew.org/science-conservation/plants-fungi/quercus-suber-cork-oak>

⁴ <http://www.kew.org/science-conservation/plants-fungi/quercus-suber-cork-oak>

⁵ <http://www.kew.org/science-conservation/plants-fungi/quercus-suber-cork-oak>