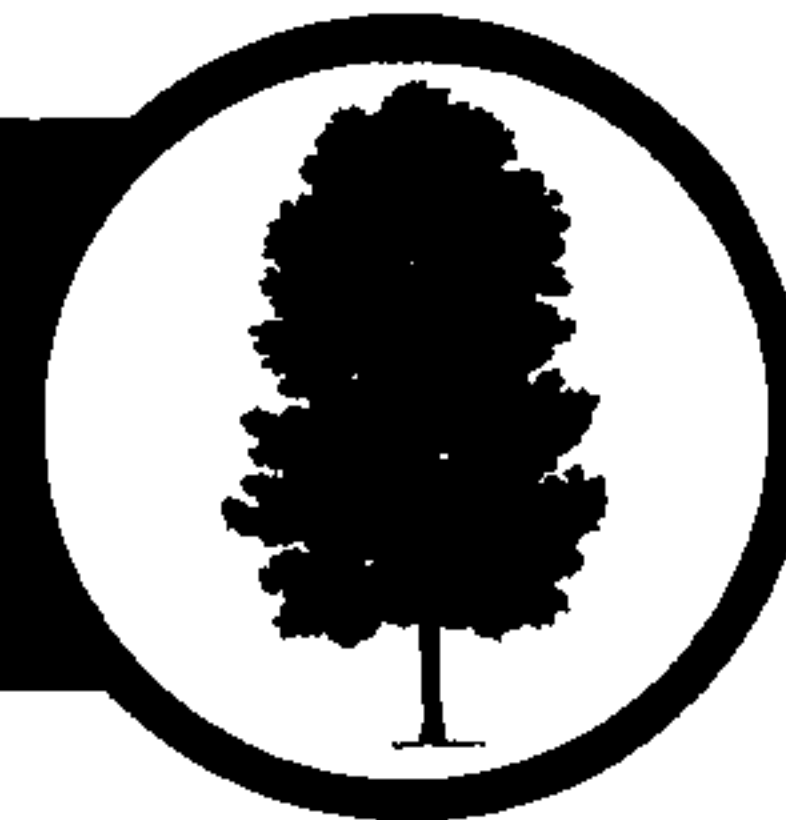


HACKBERRY



Celtis occidentalis

IDENTIFYING CHARACTERISTICS:

- Branching:** Alternate.
- Leaves:** Simple; singly toothed, base often without teeth; unequal (lopsided), heart-shaped base; tip often curved; pale green, sunken veins, often rough above; mite galls often present.
- Flowers:** Monoecious (male and female on same tree).
- Fruit:** Borne on short stem; small round, berry-like; deep purple when ripe; sweet nutlet (edible).
- Twigs:** Zigzag, reddish-brown; lenticels—pale, oblong; buds—no terminal, lateral buds are triangular and hug the twig; pith—often chambered, only at nodes, solid elsewhere (main branch crotches U-shaped).
- Bark:** Gray, corky warts or ridges on young trees, fine bark layers very distinct; old trees eventually become scaly.

GROWTH HABITS:

- Rate:** Rapid.
- Maturity age:** 150 to 200 years.
- Height:** 30 to 130 feet.
- Crown spread:** 50+ feet.
- Roots:** Deep, fibrous, wide-spreading.

RANGE: Native; see maps.

SHADE TOLERANCE: Intermediate to tolerant.

SOILS:

- pH preference:** 6.6 to 8.0; prefers bottomlands but will grow on variety of sites.
- Drainage:** Prefers well-drained soils but will tolerate moderately drained soils.
- Moisture:** Prefers moist soils but will tolerate both moderately wet and moderately dry conditions.

SUSCEPTIBILITY:

- Insects:** Elm scurfy scale; hackberry psyllid gall-makers; fall cankerworm; spring cankerworm.
- Diseases:** Witches' broom; powdery mildew; leaf spots.
- Drought:** Tolerant.
- Salt spray:** Intolerant.

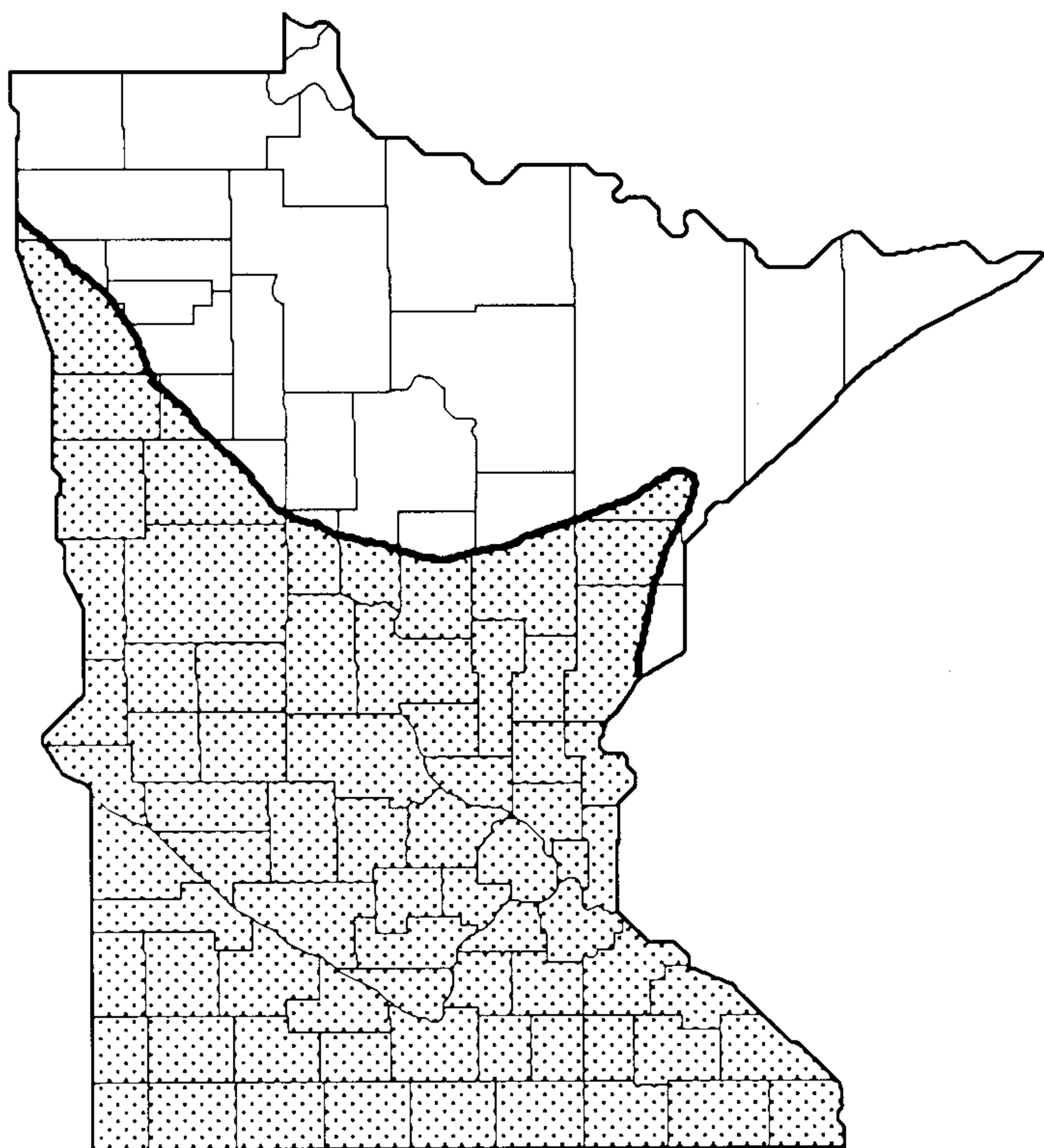
USES:

Shelterbelts and/or windbreaks: Could be (and has been) used in farmstead shelterbelts if it is given enough space (in excess of 20 feet) to accommodate its spreading crown. Not recommended for field windbreaks because of its spreading crown.

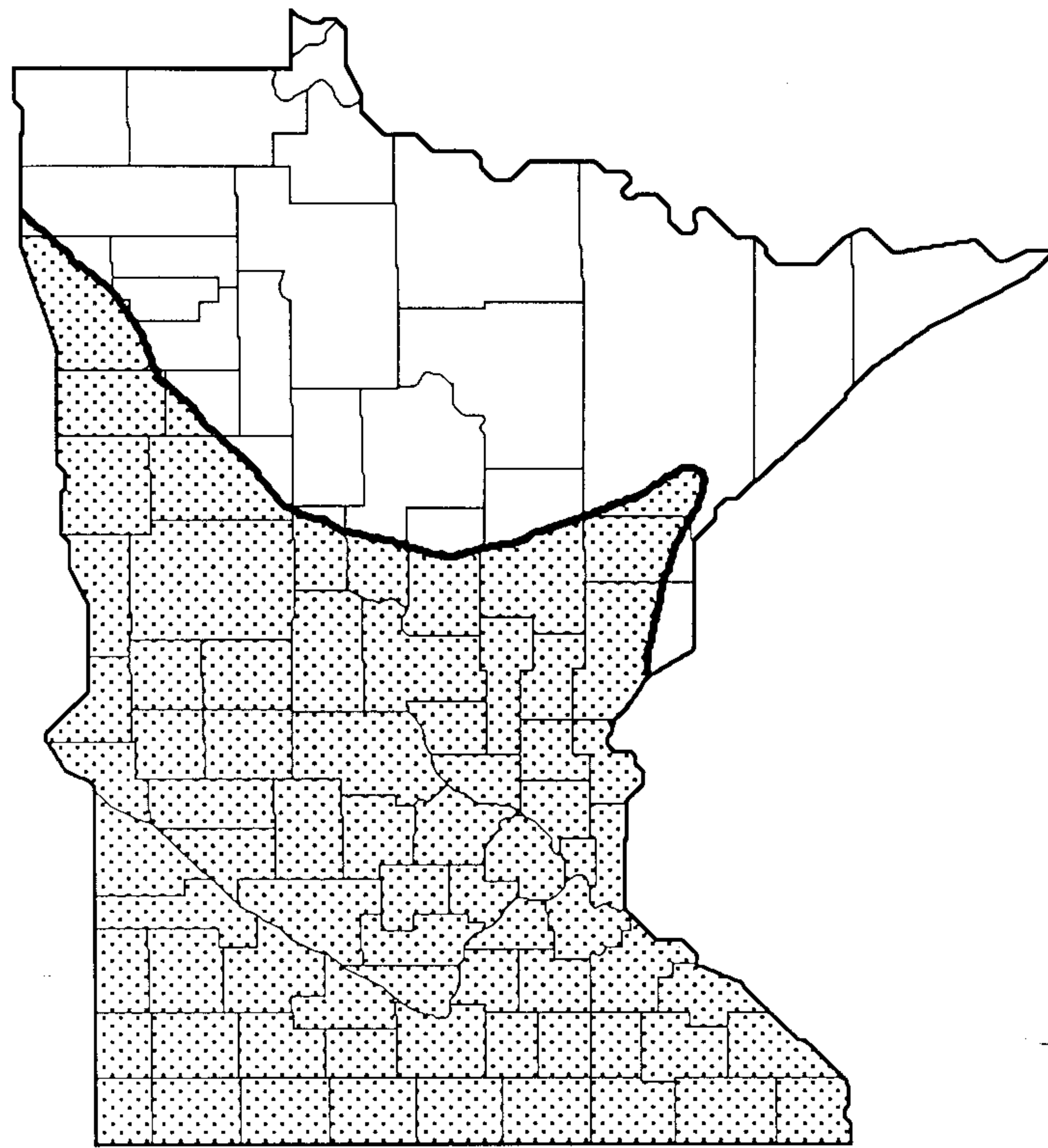
Wildlife: Good to very good; birds—nesting (branches, cavities), feeding (insects, fruit, buds); mammals—browse (leaves, buds, twigs), fruits.

Products: Sawlogs; veneer; wood similar to elm; sold in mixture with white elm.

Horticultural: Shade and street plantings.



Hackberry native range.



Hackberry estimated planting range.