Appendix B. State Champion Trees

There is a list of State Champion Trees for each state in the U.S. (as well as a National list).

To be a State Champion Tree, it must be the biggest of each kind in the state.

Nevada's State Champion list can be found by googling "Nevada's Big Tree Program," then linking to "Nevada Register of Big Trees."

Championship status is based on a point system, established nationally. Points are awarded as follows:

1. 1 point for each inch of circumference at 4.5 feet above ground;
2. 1 point for each foot of height;
3. 1/4 point for each foot of average crown spread;
4. These three numbers are totaled, and, if the nominated tree has at least 10 points more than the next biggest tree, it is the State Champion.

There are two types of State Champions generally recognized:

Champions are the biggest of their kind in the state;

Co-champions are tied for the biggest of their kind in the state, within 10 points;

Almost all tree species in Nevada are introduced; having had less time to grow to a large size, they naturally are not as big as trees native to an area and perhaps several hundred years old. For example, the National Champion American hornbeam growing in New Jersey (where it is a native species) has 235 points, and the largest American hornbeam in the state has 47 points; but this tree was probably planted in the last 20 years.

To acknowledge the efforts of Nevadans to increase species diversity, the Nevada Division of Forestry (who administers the state list) has created a new category, "Up-and-coming Trees."