

Tree of the Month



Since its introduction by Princeton Nurseries, October Glory® Red Maple has been one of the most popular shade trees on the market. We all know about the amazing florescent red fall color and its consistent performance even in conditions less than optimal. But one thing growers might be interested in is the easily maintained central leader of October Glory®. This is somewhat rare in round or spreading trees. For the grower, it means less work to produce a quality product. Less work gives us more time for the important things in life: family, fishing and football.



**Robinson
Nursery
Notes**

Acer palmatum

The “P” Word

Phytophthora ramorum, maybe you’ve heard of it. This organism is responsible for the death of thousands of Oak in California. This topic comes up fairly often out here in Oregon. New information on this topic is continually coming in. The latest: it looks like USDA will step in to regulate west coast nurseries. Fortunately, the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Association of Nurseries have been responsive to this situation right from the beginning. So the USDA regulations will probably mirror what Oregon has already been doing. This summer ODA inspected and tested all host plants in 784 Oregon

Robinson Nursery passed the test! No *P. ramorum* found.

Apparently, the most common method of becoming infected with the disease is to bring in infected plant material from contaminated nurseries. All of our rootstocks, cutting wood, bud and graft wood come from our own farms and other certified nurseries. This practice will help to minimize our potential exposure to introducing *P. ramorum* to our growing grounds. Also, ODA will continue to test Oregon nurseries annually.

If you have any questions regarding the “P” word, don’t hesitate to call. Our staff has been keeping

abreast of this changing situation and can probably answer any questions you may have.

Also something to note: all shipments of plant material from Oregon should have a nice green *Phytophthora ramorum* certificate on the bill of lading. If they don’t, you had better be making some phone calls.



Malus 'Red Jewel'®

**Staff Introductions
Production Manger—Gabriel Mendoza**

Gabriel came to this country from Michoacan, Mexico in 1979. He worked for Baileys Nursery and Mt. Arbor Nursery until 1989 when he became the first full time employee of Robinson Nursery. He was pretty much a one man crew then, growing 25,000 trees on 10 acres. Today he manages the activities of 85 people, growing more than

700,000 plants on 600 acres. It goes pretty much without saying that he has mastered every job there is in a bare root tree nursery. “The nice thing about working with plants”, he says, “is that I learn something everyday.” As the second of 15 children, family is very important to Gabriel. He has three children and two grandchildren, a 6 year old and a



new baby. Family time is his favorite activity.