

Original article

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English Oak (*Quercus robur* L.) Near Northern Border of its Natural Habitat

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Abstract. The article presents the history and current state of the oldest specimens of English oak (*Quercus robur* L.) – the most important tree species for forestry, and gardening in St. Petersburg and its suburban area. The authors analyze representatives of this species that grow near the northern borders of their range and are the largest and oldest among the trees of the local flora in St. Petersburg and its environs. On the northern coast of the Gulf of Finland, very old and large English oak trees are preserved, growing wild within the city limits, which appeared even before the founding of St. Petersburg. For example, a tree near the village of Lisiy Nos, the age of which the authors of the article estimate to be no less than 450 years. There has been a deterioration in the condition of the *Quercus robur*, and therefore it is important to create a database of old surviving trees and take measures to extend the life of each unique tree.

Key words: *Quercus robur*, old-age oak specimens, Saint-Petersburg.

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