What makes cookys and cakes more tasty, adds flavor to icecream and can be cracked and ate right from the tree! The pecan is called "America's Own Nut because it is the only major tree nut that naturally grows in the U.S. The pecan even had a place in the garden's of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. In March 1775 Washington planted pecan trees that he receive as a gift from Jefferson some of those trees still survive!