

# WHAT'S THAT TREE?

by Herbert Appleton

## A KEY TO 150 TREE SPECIES

FORESTRY ENTERPRISES  
1740 K STREET, N.W.  
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## THE REASON FOR THIS KEY

This key grew out of frustration. The usual tree guides just don't enable me quickly to identify a tree. They are written for the student who knows "dioecious" from "monoecious", "catkins" from "panicles", etc.

If you are unfamiliar with technical terms or unwilling to carry a magnifying glass, you will want a key with which you can spot a slippery elm, for example, without knowing all its family connections. Such a key must be simple to use. And it must go directly to the answer.

Instead of loading you down with all there is about a slippery elm that relates it to an American elm, this key helps you distinguish the slippery elm from any other important tree. It gives just enough of the individual characteristics of each tree to set that tree apart. To be of value in the key, characteristics had to be fairly constant, readily observable for long periods, and capable of objective description. The number of needles in a bundle, the taste of a twig, the shape of a leaf scar are such characteristics. The shape of the crown, the fruit, the flowers, and the foliage color are not.

In preparing this edition of "WHAT'S THAT TREE?" I wish to express my thanks to Mr. Albert G. Hall, and Mr. Harris Collingwood for their invaluable help in constructing the KEY. My thanks go also to Mr. William A. Dayton, for his comments and criticism, to Boy Scout Troop 203, Bethesda, Md., for the first field test of the manuscript, and to Mr. Herbert Gutman and the many other individuals who tested the first edition of the KEY, published by the American Forestry Association.

The descriptions have been checked against "KNOWING YOUR TREES" by Collingwood and Brush, "TEXTBOOK OF DENDROLOGY" by Harlow and Harrar, and other texts.

Line drawings are by Ada Appleton.

Herbert Appleton

## WHERE TO LOOK

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**COMPOUND:** Having more than one blade growing on a single stem. These blades are called leaflets. Note that the leaf stem is not woody. Use leaves back from end of branch.

**SIMPLE:** Having a single blade on a leaf stem. Use leaves back from end of branch.

**ENTIRE:** With a margin which is not lobed. In this key "entire" includes smooth, wavy, (having a margin which does not lie flat) scalloped, double toothed, saw-toothed, and double sawtoothed (see sketches).

**SCARS:** The marks left on a twig by the stems of last year's leaves. Used only in Key B.

**BL00M:** A powdery or waxy substance on the surface.

**STOMATA:** Tiny breathing pores on the surfaces of leaves. They usually occur in rows.

**SYMMETRICAL:** Generally balanced on both sides of the center line of a leaf, from tip to base.

Compound Leaf			
needles and Scales	See page 17 for leaf scars	Leaf margins	
needle	needle	smooth	scalloped
scale		toothed	double-toothed
Lobed Leaves			
irregular (southern red oak)	symmetrical (black oak)	truncate (tulip tree)	
Lobed Leaves	Lobed Leaves	Lobed Leaves	
Entire Leaves and Leaflets			
oval (sweet birch)	lance (black walnut leaflet) obovate (factory terminal leaflet)	truncate (tulip tree)	
Entire Leaves and Leaflets	Entire Leaves and Leaflets	Entire Leaves and Leaflets	
fan (ginkgo)	oblong (tan oak)	heart (catalpa)	
Opposite	Opposite	Opposite	
Twigs (growth, buds, etc.)	Twigs (growth, buds, etc.)	Twigs (growth, buds, etc.)	
terminal bud	terminal bud	terminal bud	
leaf scar	leaf scar	leaf scar	
lateral buds	lateral buds	lateral buds	
bud scales	bud scales	bud scales	
pores	pores	pores	
opposite	opposite	opposite	
Black Locust	Black Locust	Black Locust	
Tapering	Tapering	Tapering	
Compound Leaf	Compound Leaf	Compound Leaf	

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR

You can use this KEY to recognize any of the 150 trees in KNOWING YOUR TREES, without any knowledge of botany beyond an understanding of the terms defined or illustrated above.

When you have learned to recognize some of these trees, you will discover that there are other ways of spotting them, for example: acorns on the ground surrounding an oak. Such "tags" are omitted from the KEY in order to keep the KEY consistent and to base it mainly on leaves and twigs. But the more of the tags you learn on your own the sooner you can do without the KEY.

## Directions for use of KEY,

1. If the tree is in foliage, use KEY A. First come the needles and scales; after that are the so-called broad leaves. If the tree is bare of foliage, use KEY B.
2. Needles are arranged in the KEY by shape (cross-section) and by the number grown-

ing in a group. Roll the needle between your fingers to determine its shape. Then check its length. Then match the needle against the characteristics given in the KEY. If there are two species with identical needles, inspect the bark. In some cases shape and grouping of needles will be enough.

3. Scale leaves are generally single. Therefore be sure to observe the other characteristics and to match them against the specifications in the KEY.
4. For broad leaf trees, the leaf growth (opposite or alternate), type (compound or simple), and shape are all important (see definitions and sketches). In addition, shape of base is used. Each of these features represents a KEY grouping. An arrow in a column means that the characteristic is not important, and that the significant factor is to be found to the right. Note that the first thing to look for is how the leaves grow -- opposite or alternate.

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5. If the tree is bare (a deciduous tree during winter months) use KEY B. Here the important things are placement and shape of leaf scars, twig and bud characteristics. Bark comes into the picture only when necessary. If the placement and shape of a scar are enough, that is as far as you go (see northern catalpa). To taste bark you needn't dig at the trunk. The bark of twigs will do. Bark color or texture is based on that of large mature trees.
  6. If you are in doubt about the species of the tree, study the description given in KNOWING YOUR TREES. Check the range map in that book to be sure that the tree you are trying to identify not only has the same observed characteristics as the tree in KNOWING YOUR TREES but is growing in the area to which it is native. If you do not have a copy of KNOWING YOUR TREES, any other standard book on trees will be useful. Wherever practical the KEY shows the natural range of a species. If your tree grows naturally in the East, there is no

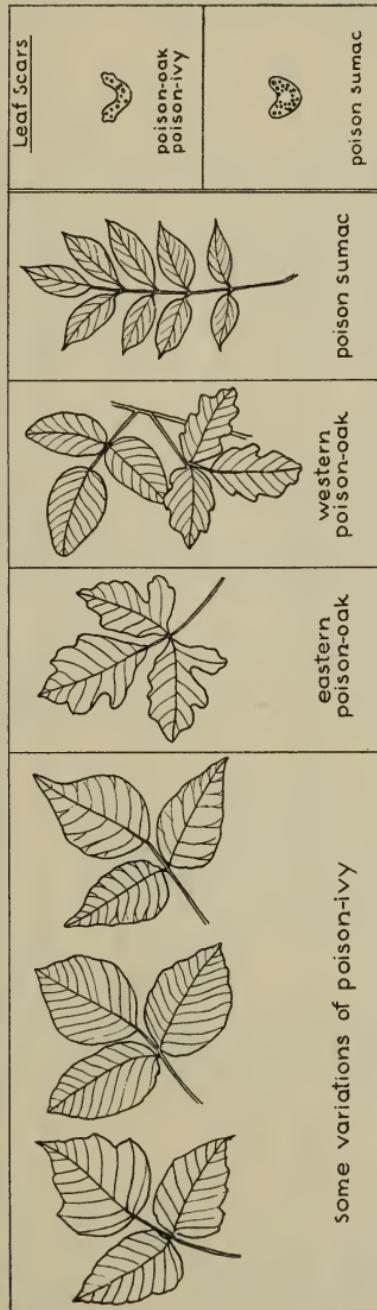
need to study the KEY for giant sequoia since this in its natural state is limited to California.

There is wide variation within a species. Two black oak trees will not look exactly alike. A leaf from one will not be exactly the same as a leaf from another. In fact, two leaves from the same tree may differ. Color may vary within a species. On the other hand, a smell of camphor will always be present in a California laurel leaf, and will not be in any other lance-shaped leaf with pointed base. Identifying a tree once will not assure you that you will spot another tree of the same species next time you go out without the KEY. Familiarity may come only after practice and after you have accepted the degree of variation you will encounter.

Don't be afraid to snap a twig or crush a leaf, and to sniff or chew it. You needn't swallow it. Just be sure you recognize poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac when you see them.

## POISONOUS WEEDS - LOOK OUT FOR THESE

The recognition key for the poisonous plants is given below. To be safe, you should memorize this key.



### SUMMER

ALTERNATE	COMPOUND	TAPERING	CHARACTERISTICS
GROWTH TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAFLET	SHAPE OF BASE	
	See drawings above	3 leaflets shiny - center leaflet symmetrical, outer leaflets match each other, inconspicuous flowers cluster above bases of leaves; yellowish white waxy or downy berries with distinct lines like orange sections; grows as shrub or vine. When growing as a vine on a tree it develops fuzzy rope of aerial roots.	Poison Ivy
		3-7 leaflets downy below, center leaflet symmetrical; yellowish-white waxy berries with distinct lines ; grows from New Jersey south and west to Texas as a shrub.	Poison Oak
		3 leaflets , glossy, leathery , sawtoothed or round-toothed , vary on same plant, lobes appear on both edges ; greenish white flowers ; greenish or creamy white waxy berries with distinct lines; grows on West Coast as shrub or vine.	Western Poison Oak

GROWTH TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAFLET	SHAPE OF BASE	CHARACTERISTICS
ALTERNATE	Round	3 leaflets, inconspicuous flowers, berries as above.	Poison Ivy
	Round	3 leaflets, glossy leathery, berries as above.	Western Poison Oak
	Round or Tapering	7-13 leaflets, velvety; smooth margins, scarlet midribs, green or ivory waxy berries cluster in from end of stem. Grows mostly in eastern swamps as a shrub or small tree.	Poison Sumac
COMPOUND	Round or indented	3-7 leaflets, orange berries cluster in from end of stem. Grows in southern Florida and the Keys as a shrub or small tree.	Poison Wood
See drawings above			

## ALTERNATE

See drawings above

## WINTER

GROWTH TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAF SCAR	CHARACTERISTICS
ALternate	V- or U-shaped	Light brown twigs - prominent orange pores. Look for berries as described for summer.

## CHARACTERISTICS

Poison Ivy,  
Poison Oak,  
Poison Sumac

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A. FOLIAGE KEY (Year Round for Evergreens; Spring, Summer and Fall for Deciduous)

	LEAF TYPE	LEAF GROUPING	LENGTH (INCHES)	CHARACTERISTICS	BARK	
1	seeds	3 or 4	6-8	Stomata on all sides	Pond Pine	
2	edge	12 - 20	¾ - 1¼	Soft, single at first	Tamarack	
3	edge	30 - 40	1 - 1-5/8		Western Larch	
4	seed	1	¼ - ¾	White stomata, whitish bloom	Black Spruce	
5	seed	1	1/3 - 2/3	Skunk odor when crushed	White Spruce	
6	seed	1	1/2	Midrib on under side	Red Spruce	
7	seed	1	1/2 - 3/4	Thin white lines on each side	Norway Spruce	
8	seed	1	1/2 - 3/4	Soft, stand out horizontally, bristly pointed	Pacific Yew	
9	seed	1	1/2 - 1¼	Silvery stomata bands below	Sitka Spruce	
10	edge	1	1/2 - 1¼	Powdery surface, sharp pointed	Blue Spruce	
11	edge	1	5/8 - 1¼	New growth lighter colored	Zig-zag furrows	
12	edge	1	5/8 - 1½	Grooved above, stomata bands on all sides	Red Fir	
13	edge	1	1/2	Unpleasant odor when crushed	Noble Fir	
					Engelmann Spruce	

LEAF TYPE	GROUPING	LENGTH (INCHES)	CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
14	- EDGE	1 1/3 - 3/4	Blunt point, spiral all sides of branch 2-ranked spirals, grow on small stems	Mountain Hemlock Eastern Hemlock
15	-	1/3 - 3/4	Shiny, grooved above, 2 white stomata bands below	Western Hemlock
16	NEEDLE	1/3 - 3/4	Shiny above, central groove and 2 white stomata bands below	Ridged
17	NEEDLE	1/3 - 3/4	(Native to Northern California and So. Oregon) Reddish thick	Carolina Hemlock
18	PLAT., STOUT, OR	1/3 - 1	Reddish 3-12 inches thick	Redwood
19	2- RIBBED	1/2 - 3/4	2-ranked, feathery, shorter, scale-like on some branches	Baldcypress
20	2- RIBBED	1/2 - 1	Grow on upper side of branch, grooved above, silvery with 8-12 stomata bands below.	Fraser Balsam Fir
21	PLAT., STOUT, OR	1/2 - 1½	Soft, white band each side of midrib below	Douglasfir
22	NEEDLE	¾ - 1-1/8	4 or 5 rows of stomata above	Weeping Spruce
23	NEEDLE	¾ - 1½	Grow in 4 ranks	Silver Fir
24	NEEDLE	¾ - 1¼	Curl towards upper side of branch	Alpine Fir
25	NEEDLE	1	Dark blue-green above, pale below, 2-ranked spiral, 2 stomata bands below	Balsam Fir
26	NEEDLE	1 - 2	Dark yellow-green above, silvery below 2-ranked spiral	Grand Fir
27	NEEDLE	1 ½	Incurved, whitish tinge	Singleleaf Pinyon Pine

LEAF TYPE	GROUPING	LENGTH (INCHES)	CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
28	2	3/4 - 1½	Cluster toward end of branch	Jack Pine
29	2	1 - 3	Rarely single	Lodgepole Pine
30	2	1 - 3	Whitish cast; stand out 2 sides of branch	White Fir
31	2	1½ - 3	Twisted, sharp pointed, blue-green	Scotch Pine
32	2	1½ - 3	Soft, sharp pointed	Spruce Pine
33	2	1½ - 3	Waxy purplish bloom	Virginia Pine
34	2	3 - 6½	Grow in sheath	Austrian Pine
35	2	4 - 6	Flexible, breaks clean when doubled between fingers	Red Pine
36	2-3	7/8 - 1½	Sharp pointed, curved	Pinyon Pine
37	2-3	2½ - 5	Rigid	Table Mountain Pine
38	2-3	3 - 5	Flexible, not twisted	Shortleaf Pine
39	2-3	5 - 10	Turpentine odor when twig is crushed	Ponderosa Pine
40	2-3	5 - 10	Violet or pineapple odor when twig is crushed	Jeffrey Pine
41	2-3	8 - 12	Large bunches at ends of branches	Slash Pine

LEAF TYPE	GROUPING	LENGTH (INCHES)	CHARACTERISTICS	BARK	
42	3	7/8 - 1 1/4	Sharp pointed, curved	Deeply furrowed, brownish-yellow	Mexican Pinyon Pine Pitch Pine
43	3	2 1/2 - 5	—	—	Loblolly Pine Coulter Pine Longleaf Pine
44	3	5 - 9	Fibrous sheath	Deeply scaled	Digger Pine
45	3	6 1/2 - 12	Large bunches at ends of branches	Papery scales	Parry Pinyon Pine Bristlecone Pine
46	3	8 - 18	Large bunches at ends of branches	—	Whitebark Pine
47	3	8 1/2 - 12	Thin clusters	—	Limber Pine
48	4	7/8 - 1 1/4	Sharp pointed, curved	—	Western White Pine Sugar Pine
49	5	1 1/4 - 1-1/3	—	—	Eastern White Pine Torrey Pine
50	5	1 1/2 - 2 1/2	—	—	—
51	5	1 1/2 - 3	—	—	—
52	5	2 - 4	Frosty	—	—
53	5	2 1/2 - 4	Twisted; 2-6 stomata on each surface	Ridged, deeply furrowed	—
54	5	3 - 5	Brown sheath at base	—	—
55	5	7 1/2 - 13	—	—	—

LEAF TYPE	GROUPING	LENGTH (INCHES)	CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
56	1	→	(Grows naturally only in California)	Reddish brown with whitish surface
57	1	→	Glossy above, white triangular spots below	Monterey Cypress
58	1	1/16	Silvery, unpleasant odor when crushed	Western Redcedar
59	1	1/16	White stomata lines	Arizona Cypress
60	1	1/16-1/8	Keeled below, turn brown second year	Port Orford
61	1	1/8	Overlap in 4-6 rows (native only from Colorado west)	Whitecedar
62	1	1/8	Opposite pairs, 3's when young, 6 longitudinal rows (native to Southwest)	Atlantic Whitecedar
63	1	1/8	Turn brown second year (native to Washington and Oregon)	Utah Juniper
64	1	1/8 - 1/2	Aromatic when crushed	Alligator Juniper
65	1	1/4	Light green below, profuse	Alaska Yellow-cedar
66	1	1/4 - 1/2	(Native to California)	Calif. Incensecedar
				Northern Whitecedar
				Giant Sequoia

SCALE

LEAF TYPE	GROUPING	LENGTH (INCHES)	CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
67 AND SCALES NEEDLES	→	1/8	Scales on older growth; overlap in groups of 3, grow in 6 rows; red bark exposed when scales drop. Needles on new growth.	Fibrous
68	→	1/16	Scales on older growth in opposite pairs. Needles on new growth. All turn brown beginning second year.	Eastern Redcedar

GROWTH	TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAFLET	SHAPE OF BASE	LEAFLET, STEM, AND TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BARK	
69		Pointed	Tapering	3-7 leaflets, pointed		Oregon Ash
70		Oval or lance	Tapering	5-7 leaflets, grow from common point at end of stem, parallel veins, midrib to margin, unpleasant odor.		Ohio Buckeye
71	COMPOUND	Lance	Tapering or unevenly round	5-9 leaflets		White Ash
72	OPPOSITIVE	Obovate	Tapering	5-7 leaflets, wrinkled above, toothed, grow from common point at end of stem; stem swells abruptly at base.		Horsechestnut
73		Varied	Varied	3-9 leaflets, pointed at tip, sometimes 3-lobed.		Boxelder

GROWTH	TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAF	SHAPE OF BASE	LEAF, STEM OR TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
74				3-5 lobes, double toothed, 2-4 inch stem, sides of terminal lobe converge.	Red Maple
75				5 lobes, upper surface wrinkled, several teeth on each side of each lobe.	Sycamore Maple
76				5 lobes, deep sinuses, wavy margins (grows only on Pacific coast)	Bigleaf Maple
77	INDENTED	LOBED	INDENTED	5 lobes, wavy, sometimes toothed and wavy	Sugar Maple
78	ENTIRE	SIMPLE	SIMPLE	5-7 lobes, upper surface smooth between deep veins, 1 or 2 teeth on each side of each lobe, stem gives off milky juice	Norway Maple
79	ENTIRE	OVAL	OVAL	5 lobes, deep sinuses, sharp teeth, silvery below, sides of terminal lobe flare out, twig gives off unpleasant odor when broken	Silver Maple
80	OPPOSITIVE	ENTIRE	ENTIRE	Veins turn parallel to margin	Flowering Dogwood
81				Short grooved hairy stem with large clasping base.	Pacific Dogwood
82			HEART	Hairy above, no teeth, but sometimes one pointed lobe on each side.	Royal Paulownia
83				Smooth above	Northern Catalpa
84				Finely toothed, (grows only in West).	Cascara Buckthorn

GROWTH	TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAFLET	SHAPE OF BASE	LEAFLET, STEM OR TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
85			→	5-11 leaflets, terminal leaflet shorter and broader, leaflets alternate on stem	American Yellowwood
86	OVAL	Tapering	9-15 leaflets, leaflets pointed, opposite		Pecan
87		Round	7-19 leaflets, leaflets opposite		Black Locust
88			40-60 leaflets, pointed, basal leaflets lobed.		Kentucky Coffeetree
89	OBOVATE	Unequally round	11-17 leaflets, pointed, aromatic, fine sticky hairs, sticky stem.		Butternut
90	LANCE	→	5-7 leaflets	Curved pieces peel away vertically from trunk.	Shagbark Hickory
91	COMPOUND	→	5-9 leaflets	Straight pieces peel away vertically from trunk.	Shellbark Hickory
92	ALTERNATE	Tapering	5-9 leaflets, blunt yellow bud at base		Bitternut Hickory
93			5-9 leaflets, terminal leaflet about 3 times size of base leaflets, fragrant.		Mockernut Hickory
94		Rounded	18-28 leaflets, terminal leaflet lacking in some		Honeylocust
95		→	5-9 leaflets, blunt reddish brown bud at base		Pignut Hickory
96		→	15-23 leaflets, sharp teeth, hairy stem		Black Walnut

GROWTH	TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAF	SHAPE OF BASE	LEAF, STEM, OR TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BARK	
97			Indented	5-7 lobes, star shaped, aromatic Generally 4-lobed; truncate ( <i>see sketch</i> )	Sweetgum Tuliptree (Yellow Poplar)	
98				3-5 lobes, small tip in indentation of base	Sycamore	
99				→ 5 lobes, middle lobes give cross-like form	Post Oak	
100				→ 5-9 lobes, rounded sinuses extend over half-way to midrib, bristle-tipped, midrib and main veins yellow, 1½-2½ inch stems	Scarlet Oak	
101				→ 7-9 lobes, deep rounded sinuses, sinuses and lobes of varying widths, bristle-tipped; tough, thick, yellow 2-6 inch stems.	Black Oak	
102				→ 5-9 lobes, round lobes, margins turn under, grows on West Coast.	Oregon White Oak	
103				→ a) on lower branches: 3-lobed, bell-shaped, shallow sinuses, b) on upper and lower branches: 5-7 lobed, finger-like, curved, toothed, sometimes pointed.	Southern Red Oak	
104				→ 5-11 lobes, bristle tipped, leaf tapers from broad base.	Northern Red Oak	
105						

SYMMETRICAL

LOBED

SIMPLE

ALTERNATE

104

105

103

102

99

98

97

GROWTH	TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAF	SHAPE OF BASE	LEAF, STEM, OR TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
106			→	5-9 lobes, deep, wide sinus each side of center, wide towards tip, toothed terminal lobe, leaves crowd toward end of twig.	Bur Oak
107			→	5-9 lobes, irregular points, very narrow lobes	Grayish brown
108			→	5-9 lobes, broad irregular sinuses, lower lobes rounded or acute, terminal lobe broad with small nearly triangular lateral lobes.	Pin Oak Overcup Oak
109			→	5-11 lobes, bristle-tipped, leaf tapers from broad base.	Northern Red Oak
			→	5-11 lobes, deep sinuses, lobes tapering, pointed, hairy $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch stems	Swamp Red Oak
			→	7-9 lobes, some sinuses deep, some shallow, leaf tapers toward stem.	White Oak
			Tapering	7-11 lobes, rounded, fine hairs on both surfaces, hairy $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ " stem. (Native Calif. only) Much broader toward tip, toothed, scalloped, or lobed, sometimes sinuses extend half-way to midrib.	California White Oak Swamp White Oak
110					
111					
112					
113					

IRREGULAR

LOBED

SIMPLE

ALTERNATE

GROWTH	TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAF	SHAPE OF BASE	LEAF, STEM, OR TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
114	L O B E D	Irreg- ular	Tapering →	Thin, sometimes lobed, sometimes entire a) On lower branches: 3-lobed, bell shaped, shallow sinuses, broad lobes toothed b) On upper branches: 5- or 7-lobed, finger- like, curved, toothed, sometimes pointed	Laurel Oak Southern Red Oak
115					
116	S I M P L E	Oval	Round or Tapering	Paper-thin, wavy margins, not toothed Tapering tip, unevenly scalloped, 10-16 pairs of straight primary veins	Cucumbertree Chestnut Oak
117	A L T E R N A T E			Double toothed, margin curves under	Red Alder
118		Uneven round		Leathery	Persimmon
119					
120			Round or indented	Double toothed; hairy 1/2 inch stems	American Hornbeam
121			Round or uneven indented	Sharply single toothed or inconspicuously double toothed.	Sweet Birch

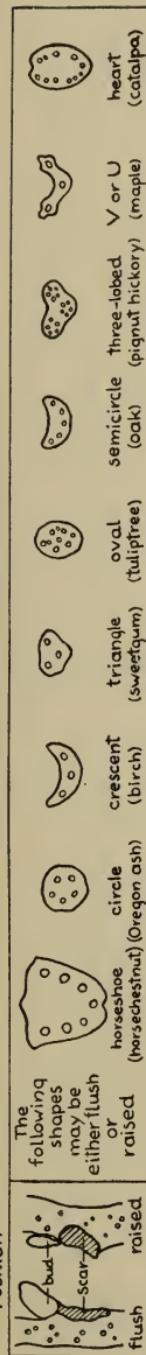
GROWTH	TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAF	SHAPE OF BASE	LEAF, STEM, OR TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
122				Pointed, gives off thick juice when squeezed Edges turn under	Osage-Orange
123				Pointed, gives off balsam odor when crushed	Live Oak
124				Fan out on 1½-3 inch stems, quiver at slightest breeze, stems flattened at right angle to plane of leaves.	Balsam Poplar
125	ALTERNATE	Oval	Round	Blue-green below, thorny on young trees, few or no teeth on leaves of old trees.	Quaking Aspen
126	SIMPLE			Thorny toothed, thick, leathery	Canyon Live Oak
127	ENTIRE			Nearly white below, pale midrib, grooved	American Holly
128				½ - 1 inch stem	Pacific Madrone

GROWTH	TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAF	SHAPE OF BASE	LEAF, STEM, OR TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BARK	
129				Coarse, incurved teeth, glossy Bristle- or hair-tipped teeth, both surfaces smooth	Thin, smooth, blue-gray sometimes mottled	Beech American Chestnut
130			Tapering	Usually smooth, sometimes irregularly lobed, thin		Laurel Oak
131		Oval	Tapering or indented	Coated below with rust-colored down Sharply double-toothed	Reddish brown scales	Southern Magnolia Yellow Birch
132	SIMPLE		Indented	Thin, tough, sawtoothed	Small pieces peel away vertically	Eastern Hop hornbeam
133	ALTERNATE		Round or tapering	Double toothed, tiny warty glands along main veins	Nearly black at base	Paper Birch
134			→	Spine at base of twig or leaf; sometimes lobed.		Hawthorn
135						
136						

GROWTH	TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAF	SHAPE OF BASE	LEAF, STEM, AND TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
137		Lopsided oval	Uneven round	Long point, 3 prominent veins branch out from base Double toothed, stiffly haired, rough, wrinkled upper surface. Single toothed.	Hackberry
138					Slippery Elm
139					American Elm
140	Oval or lance	Tapering		Aromatic, flavor like bitter almonds	Black Cherry
141	E N T I R E			Camphor odor when crushed (Native to California and Oregon)	California Laurel
142	S I M P L E			Pale brownish below, many slender yellow veins	Shingle Oak
143	A L T E R N A T E	Lance		Unevenly double toothed, thin, tough, with flattened stem.	River Birch
144		Tapering or round		Many tiny teeth, thick, leathery, with rust areas below	Black Cottonwood
145	Lance or obovate	Tapering		Sawtoothed, teeth rounded, leaves crowd at end of twig.	Chinquapin Oak
146				Scalloped margin	Swamp Chestnut Oak
147				Toothed or scalloped or deeply lobed	Swamp White Oak
148	Obovate	Tapering		Sometimes scalloped; grooved, hairy 1½-2½" stem	Water Tupelo

GROWTH	TYPE	SHAPE OF LEAF	SHAPE OF BASE	LEAF, STEM, OR TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
149		Obovate	Tapering or round	Pointed, cluster thickly	Black Tupelo
150		Triangular	Straight or indented	Rounded teeth, leathery	Eastern Cottonwood
151	ALTERNATE	Elliptic	Round	Fan out on 1½-3 inch stems, quiver at slight breeze, stems flattened at right angles to plane of leaves	Quaking Aspen
152	SIMPLE	Elliptic	→	Double-toothed; long pointed tip; flutter in slightest breeze	Gray Birch
153		Long narrow	→	Pointed both ends	Willow Oak
154		Oblong	Wedge	Scalloped, toothed; densely woolly below	Tanoak
155		Heart	Uneven indented	Coarsely toothed, 5-6 inches long	American Basswood
156		Fan	→	—	Ginkgo
157		Varied	→	3 shapes; lance, mitten (2-lobed), and 3-lobed, all aromatic	Sassafras

## Shapes of Leaf Scars



### B. TWIG KEY (Winter for Deciduous)

POSITION	LEAF SCAR		TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BUD CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
	POSITION	SHAPE			
158	PAISED	Heart	↑		Northern Catalpa
159		Crescent	↑		Cascara Buckthorn
160		Circle	↑		Royal Paulownia
161		Semicircle	↑		White Ash
162		Purplish or green, sometimes whitish bloom almost surrounded by scar.			Boxelder
163	FLUSH	V- or U-shaped	→	Green, gives off milky juice	Norway Maple
164			→	Obtuse, 2-4 pairs of red scales	Red Maple
165			→	Green	Sycamore Maple
166		Unpleasant odor when crushed			Silver Maple

LEAF SCAR POSITION	TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BUD CHARACTERISTICS	BARK	FLUSH		
				OPPOSITE	PAIRS	LEAVES
167	(Found only in Washington, Oregon, and California)	Stout, blunt, 3-4 pairs of green to reddish scales				Bigleaf Maple
168	Horseshoe	→ Purplish tinge				Sugar Maple
169		→ Black sticky				Horsechestnut
170	Unpleasant odor		Scales keeled			Ohio Buckeye
171	Circle	Hairy				Oregon Ash
172		→ Dull red or purple with green areas				Pacific Dogwood
173		→ Yellow green to bright red, bitter red	Flattened, pointed, downy, red			Flowering Dogwood

		LEAF SCAR	TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BUD CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
	POSITION	SHAPE			
174	Raised	Semicircle	Downy pores		Shagbark Hickory
175		Semicircle or triangle	Bright red		Red Alder
176		Heart	Pale hairy tuft (eyebrow) above scar Light brown to orange-brown pores		Butternut
177			Zig-zag, dark orange-brown	No terminals, scars surround laterals	Black Walnut
178					Sycamore
179	Alternate	Round		1/4 inch egg shaped, laterals inconspicuous	Black Tupelo
180				→ No terminals, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch egg shaped brown laterals with 2 or 3 visible scales	American Chestnut
181			Reddish brown	Yellowish round, laterals inconspicuous	Water Tupelo
182		Round or oval	Bitter		Tuliptree (Yellow Poplar)

ALTERNATE	FLUSH	LEAF SCAR POSITION	TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BUD CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
183			Downy pores		Pecan
184				6-7 visible red-brown overlapping scales, laterals incurving	Quaking Aspen
185	Oval, ovate or ellipse	Shiny pores		5 overlapping scales sealed by amber fragrant resin	Balsam Poplar
186		Yellowish brown		$\frac{3}{4}$ inch elliptical to conical 6-7 shiny brown resinous overlapping scales.	Eastern Cottonwood
187		Angular, light yellow-brown or greenish brown or orange-brown pores.		$\frac{3}{4}$ inch egg-shaped to conical 6-7 resinous overlapping scales, fragrant when crushed.	Black Cottonwood
188		Pairs of short thorns			Black Locust
189	Oval to crescent	Zig-zag, shiny		Silvery, silky	Cucumbertree
190				No terminals	Hackberry
191	Crescent to triangle			No terminals, laterals sticky	American Basswood
192		Corky ridges, carries seedballs			Sweetgum

LEAF SCAR POSITION	TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BUD CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
193		No terminals, 2 scales on laterals	Persimmon
194		heavy branched thorn	Honeylocust
195	Crescent to semi-circle		Yellow Birch
196	Wintergreen flavor		Sweet Birch
197	Wintergreen flavor, spurs on old growth		Gray Birch
198	Warty glandular pores		Paper Birch
199	Spurs on old growth		River Birch
200	Downy	Inner bark slippery, pleasant taste	Slippery Elm
201	Rough, ashy, gray to brownish gray		American Elm
202	Zig-zag	Dark gray	Black Cherry
203	Short spurs, bitter almond taste		Bur Oak
204	Semicircle		Post Oak
205	Corky ridges		Rough cubes
206	Tawny, hairy		Calif. White Oak
207	(Found only in California)		Overcup Oak
208	Gray		Southern Red Oak
209	Dark Red		Laurel Oak
	Dark red shiny, bare March and April	Light gray with thin loose sil- very flakes	Chinquapin Oak
	Orange-brown		

ALTERNATE	FLUSH	SEMICIRCLE	LEAF SCAR POSITION	TWIG CHARACTERISTICS		BUD CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
				POSITI- ON	SHAPE		
210		Orange-red (found only on West Coast)		Rusty brown with matted hair		Oregon White Oak	
211		Straw brown, peeling bark				Swamp White Oak	
212		Reddish brown, shiny				Pin Oak	
213		Reddish brown		Yellowish gray, 5-sided, downy		Black Oak	
214		Reddish brown		4-angled, light brown scales		Swamp Red Oak	
215		Reddish brown		Sometimes angled, dark red-brown scales.		Scarlet Oak	
216		Reddish brown to red		Sharp pointed, 1/8", chestnut brown scales pale in margins		Willow Oak	
217		Reddish brown to greenish brown		Pointed oval, 1/4", pale hairs circular in cross-section		Northern Red Oak	
218		Reddish brown or orange first winter, dark gray or brown later				Nearly black	Chestnut Oak
219		Reddish brown or orange first winter, ashy gray later				Grayish brown tinged with red	Swamp Chestnut Oak
220		Light reddish brown first winter, dark brown later				Scalae light brown tinged with red	Shingle Oak
221		Purplish gray to greenish red					White Oak

	LEAF SCAR POSITION	TWIG CHARACTERISTICS	BUD CHARACTERISTICS	BARK
222	Heart	Prominent orange pores Orange pith	Minute, hidden in leaf scars or bark	Shellbark Hickory
223			Globe-like	Kentucky Coffeetree
224	Heart or 3-lobed		Globe-like	Mockernut Hickory
225			Rounded ridges	Pignut Hickory
226		→ Pale oblong pores, spines at base	Cylindrical or 4-angled	Bitternut Hickory
227		→ Aromatic		Hawthorn
228		→ Short stout spines entire length		Sassafras
229		→ Short downy, scars nearly surround		Osage-Orange
230		twig.	Short hairy, almost surrounded by scar.	American Yellowwood
231		→ Sometimes slightly zig-zag	¾ inch lance-shaped, long point.	Beech
232			No terminals, laterals 5-1/8 inch, oval or oblong	Blue-gray American Hornbeam
233			→ No terminals, laterals ¼", slightly hairy	Gray-brown Eastern Hophornbeam

Spiral or Spurs	Leaf Scar Position		Twig Characteristics		Bud Characteristics	Bark
	Leaf Scar Position	Leaf Scar Shape				
234	→	Spiral or spurs	Conical, short pointed bright brown scales.		Ginkgo	
235	→	Spiral	Globe-like, sharp pointed scales	Fluted	Baldcypress	
236	→	Carry nearly spherical cones, spurs			Tamarack	
237	→	Orange-brown, smooth spurs			Western Larch	

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