



DEAR Field Keys Woody Plants to Know for LVI Sampling



1. Plant is a **medium to large tree**

- ❖ usu. single trunk (can be multi-stemmed)
- ❖ canopy-sized

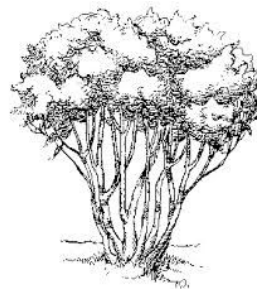
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2. Plant is a **shrub or small tree**

- ❖ commonly multi-stemmed
- ❖ understory-sized

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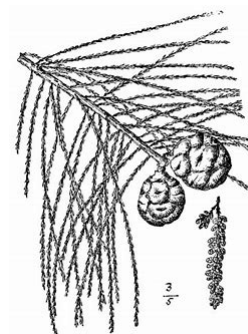
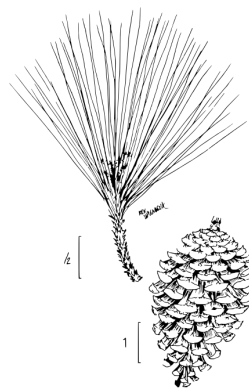




1. Tree is **needle-leaved**

- ❖ evergreen or deciduous
- ❖ produces cones

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2. Tree is **broad-leaved**

- ❖ evergreen or deciduous
- ❖ produces flowers/fruits

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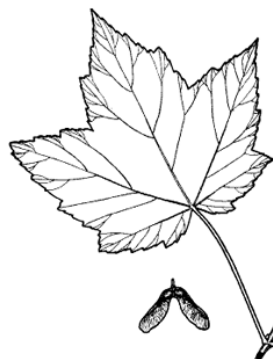
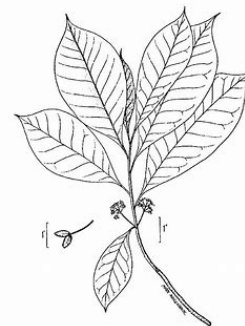


Fig. 311. *Acer rubrum* L.
Fruit, leaf, $\times \frac{1}{2}$.





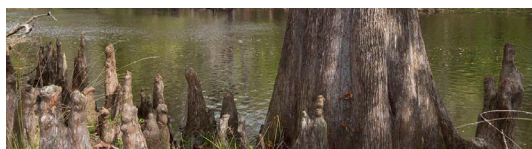
Tree needle-leaved, **evergreen**,
w/large woody cones; needles in
fascicles of 2-3

Pinus elliottii



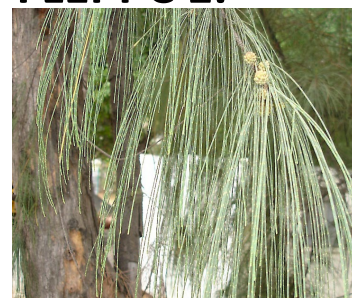
Tree needle-leaved, **deciduous**, w/small
round cones

Taxodium sp.



Tree needle-leaved, **tiny scales whorled around**
gray-green branchlets, gray, brittle bark,
resembles pine, primarily coastal. **FLEPPC 1.**

Casuarina equisetifolia

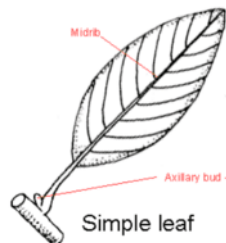




1. Tree is **broad-leaved, simple leaf**

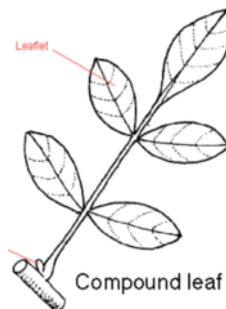
- ❖ Lobed or unlobed

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2. Tree is **broad-leaved, compound leaf**

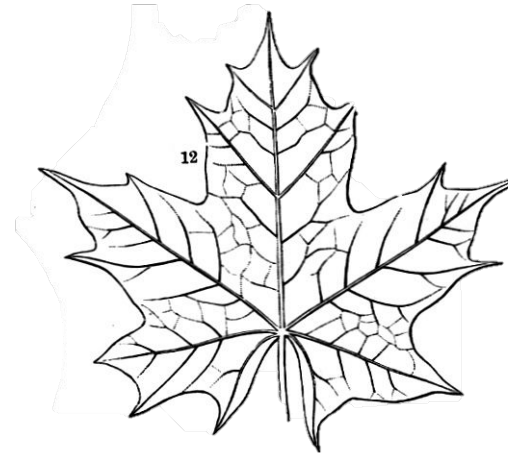
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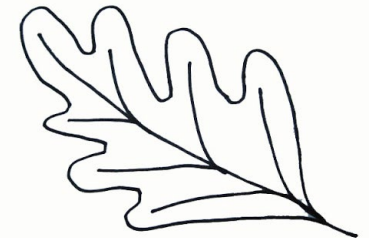
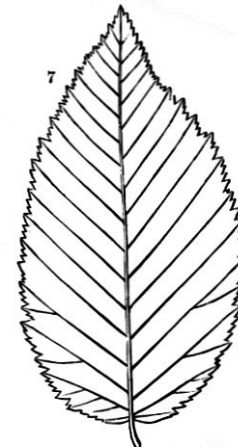
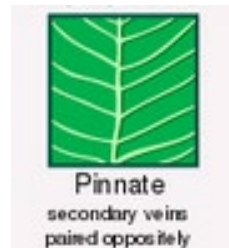
1. Tree, broad-leaved, simple,
palmately-lobed, veined

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2. Tree, broad-leaved, simple,
entire or pinnately-lobed, veined

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Opposite leaves w/3-5 lobes, stems reddish, flowers and fruits in early spring, bark smooth and gray

Acer rubrum

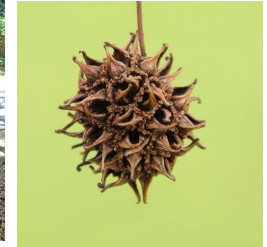


Fig. 213. *Acer rubrum* L.
Frax. Ind. 5: 32



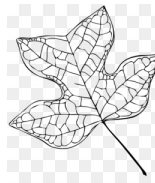
Alternate star-shaped leaves w/5 lobes, spiky ball-shaped fruit; frequently a pioneer tree in altered places

Liquidambar styraciflua



Alternate tulip-shaped leaves w/4 lobes, showy green and orange flowers; fruit cone-like

Liriodendron tulipifera



Alternate large leaves w/3-5 lobes, bark peeling in contrasting white and brown patches; fruit round

Platanus occidentalis



Tree with broad, simple, palmately-lobed leaves



Opposite, pinnately-compound leaves, 5-7 leaflets; **medium sized and often multi-trunked**, crooked, buttressed at the base; fruit a winged, single samara

Fraxinus caroliniana



Opposite, pinnately-compound leaves, 5-9 leaflets; **large and single-trunked**, buttressed at the base, samara (fruit) narrow compared to *F. caroliniana*

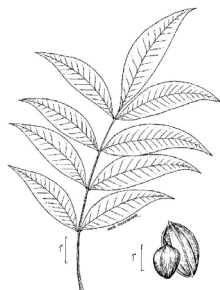
Fraxinus pennsylvanica

Tree with
broad,
compound
leaves



Alternate, pinnately-compound leaves, usu. 9-11 leaflets; 4-ribbed, nut, similar to a pecan but flattened and smaller; bark shaggy and plated.

Carya aquatica





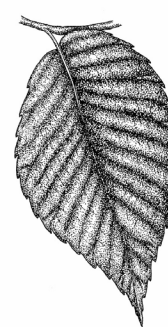
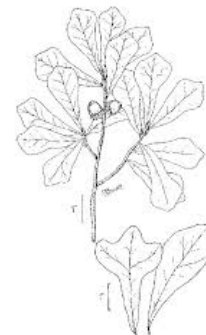
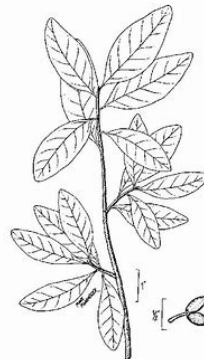
1. Tree with simple, entire leaves;
leaves elliptic, thick and leathery—tree
a “bay” or other evergreen



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2. Tree with simple, entire or shallowly-lobed leaves;
leaves deciduous, thin, variously shaped.

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Leaves alternate w/silvery-white lower surfaces (visible from a distance), aromatic when crushed; bark light gray and smooth; flowers & conelike fruit look like smaller versions of southern magnolia

Magnolia virginiana
Sweet bay



Leaves alternate w/fuzzy-golden brown lower surfaces, often with galls, aromatic when crushed; bark w/vertical fissures when mature; fruit a blue-black drupe

Persea palustris
Swamp red bay



Leaves alternate w/scalloped or serrated margins, not aromatic when crushed, 5-petaled white flower w/many yellow stamens, distinctive thick-furrowed bark when mature; fruit a woody capsule

Gordonia lasianthus
Loblolly bay



Leaves alternate, smell like camphor, parallel veins visible, white bark in thick, spongy peeling layers. Flowers white bottlebrush-like; fruit cylindric clusters of woody capsules. **FLEPPC 1.**

Melaleuca quinquenervia

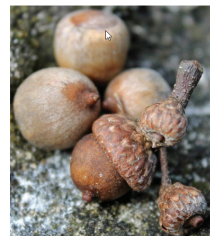




1. **Tree an oak.** Deciduous with entire or shallowly lobed leaves, sometimes both on same tree; **fruit an acorn**; growing in hydric or transitional conditions

a. **Leaves spatulate to broadly 3-lobed**, broader at the top, with tufts of hairs on lower leaves in vein axils; weedy tree in altered places

Quercus nigra



b. **Leaves variable—some narrowly diamond-shaped**, some oblanceolate to obovate; bark gray and smooth, shallowly furrowed w/age, but not deeply furrowed like live oak.

Quercus laurifolia



2. **Tree not an oak.** Deciduous with leaves variously shaped—elliptic, ovate, or heart-shaped, and margins various—smooth, scattered teeth, or saw-toothed



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Leaves alternate, with doubly-serrated margins and prominent parallel veins; leaf bases asymmetric; gray-brown bark w/plates and furrows, fruit a round samara

Ulmus americana
American elm



Leaves alternate, elliptic; leaves dark-spotted by late summer, trunk usually buttressed at the base; fruit a dark blue drupe, flowers/fruits often in pairs.

Nyssa biflora
Swamp tupelo



Leaves ovate to heart-shaped with long pointy tips, quake in wind—"Florida aspen", red fall color; fruit a 3-lobed capsule, splits to reveal 3 white seeds—"popcorn" tree. FLEPPC I.

Triadica sebifera
Chinese tallow



Tree with
**deciduous
broad
leaves,
not an
oak,**
leaves
and leaf
margins
various



1. Shrub/small tree is **broad-leaved,** **w/simple leaf**

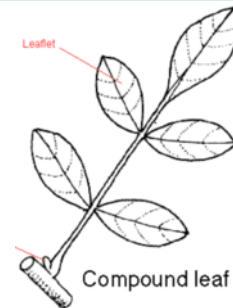
- ❖ Lobed or unlobed



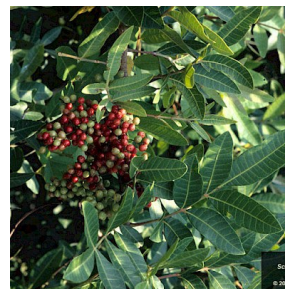
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2. Shrub/small tree is **broad-leaved,** **w/compound leaf**

Schinus terebinthifolia
Brazilian pepper



Alternate, pinnately-compound leaves, usu. 7-9 leaflets; shrubby, dense growth form; evergreen, dark green leaves, peppery when crushed; flowers tiny and white in dense clusters; fruit bright red and berry-like; **FLEPPC I.**





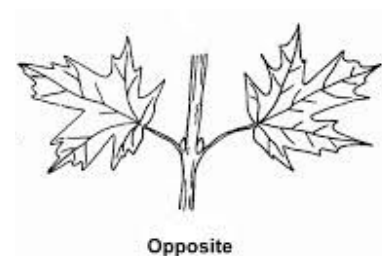
1. Shrub/small tree is broad-leaved, w/
simple, **alternately arranged leaves**



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Shrub/
small
tree

2. Shrub/small tree is broad-leaved, w/simple,
oppositely arranged leaves



Cephalanthus occidentalis
buttonbush

Opposite leaved shrub with arching branches, reddish petioles; white
flowers in compact, round clusters, w/single exerted pistil; round fruits
persistent; Look alike (w/out flwrs): *Viburnum nudum*, *Cornus foemina*





1. **Shrub/small tree** w/ simple, alternately arranged leaves, and **has holly (*Ilex*) characteristics**: small-med (.5 -8 cm) long, leathery evergreen leaves, bristles at leaf tips, berry-like bright red fruit (or black in gallberry)

Ilex, Go to
Page 15

2. Shrub/small tree w/simple, alternately arranged leaves, **but not as above--does not have holly characteristics**

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Small-medium sized tree usu. with a **single straight trunk**; bark gray and **smooth**, leathery leaves large--~5-8 cm long, spine on leaf tip and often margins; **branches stout and ascending**, fruit red (-orangish)

Ilex cassine
dahoon holly



Large shrub or small tree, **often multi-stemmed**, bark with corky **thickenings**, leathery, shiny leaves narrow and small, ~.5-3 cm long, spine on leaf tip, **branches stout and perpendicular**, fruit red (-orangish)

Ilex myrtifolia
myrtle-leaved holly



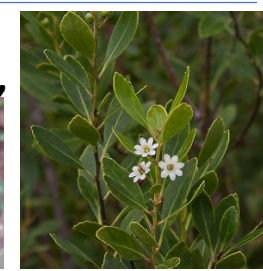
Medium-large shrub or small tree, **forms thickets**, bark gray and smooth, leathery leaves oval and small, ~.5-3 cm long, margins **entirely scalloped**; branches stiff and tangled; fruit red

Ilex vomitoria
yaupon holly



Small-medium shrub, leathery leaves, 2-6 cm long, 2-3 teeth on margins toward the tip, lower surface with reddish, punctate glands, **branches thin and flexible**; fruit black

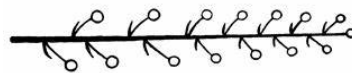
Ilex glabra
gallberry



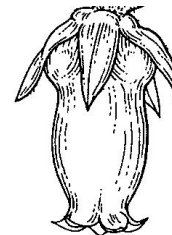


1. **Shrub/small tree** w/ simple, alternately arranged leaves; flowers and fruits arranged in a raceme; flowers bell-shaped, or narrowly tubular and spreading at the tip.

Ericaceous
shrubs, go to
page 17



raceme



Bell-shaped flower



tubular flower

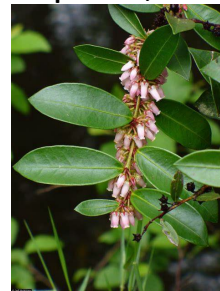
2. Shrub/small tree w/simple, alternately arranged leaves,
but not with flowers as above-- not an Ericaceous shrub.

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Small-med sized shrub with **thick, shiny, evergreen leaves; distinctive raised vein on leaf margin; flowers bell-shaped and light (almost white) to dark pink; fruit a capsule; racemes clustered in leaf axils.**

Lyonia lucida
shiny lyonia



Small-med sized shrub with **thin, deciduous leaves with minutely serrated margins; flowers bell-shaped and white; fruit a capsule, in long racemes at the ends of branches; style exserted beyond flower and persistent.**

Leucothoe racemosa
fetterbush



Small-med sized shrub with open branching; **leaves deciduous with fuzzy leaf margins, not stalked; young twigs bristly-hairy; flowers white and showy in clusters, flowering early summer after the plant leafs out (unlike other species of native azalea that flower in early to mid spring, before new leaves).**

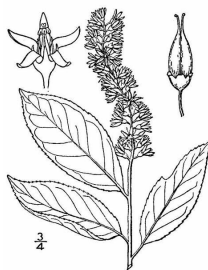
Rhododendron viscosum
swamp azalea





1. **Shrub/small tree w/ simple, alternately arranged leaves; flowers white and arranged in terminal cylindrical racemes, resembling a bottlebrush.**

Shrubs/small trees with white bottlebrush flowers, go to page 19



2. **Shrub/small tree w/simple, alternately arranged leaves, but not with flowers as above-- inflorescence is not a white bottlebrush.**

In progress



Large shrub or small tree, often forming dense thickets; bark smooth and dark gray; orangish inner bark; leaves leathery and evergreen, veins not visible; white (or pinkish) flowers in short upright racemes, flowering before new shoot growth in early spring. Fruits are winged and persist most of the year.

Cliftonia monophylla
Buckwheat tree; titi



Shrubs/small trees with white, bottlebrush-like flowers (continued on page 20)

Large shrub or small tree, clonal and often forming dense thickets; bark brownish-gray and becoming spongy and peeling to show pinkish inner bark; leaves tardily deciduous and often turn color before falling; leaves with conspicuous veins on both surfaces, varying in size among individuals; flowers in long, drooping racemes, flowering after new shoot growth; fruits turn brown and persist most of year.

Cyrilla racemiflora
Titi





Small understory shrub; open branching, branches thin and arching; leaves thin and deciduous with fine toothed margins; flowers in long delicate racemes, individual flowers with linear petals; fruits skinny-bottle shaped, persistent.

Itea virginica
Virginia willow



Shrubs/small trees with white, bottlebrush-like flowers
(continued from page 19)

Small to med understory shrub; smooth branches, young tomentose; leaves deciduous, but very shiny with prominent veins, coarsely toothed margins, and much wider than other bottlebrush shrubs treated here; flowers white to pinkish, very fragrant, in upright to arching racemes.

Clethra alnifolia
Sweet pepperbush

