

Trees, Shrubs, and Vines
To know for LVI sampling
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FDEP-SAS
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Acer rubrum (red maple) 2203

- *Family*: Sapindaceae
- *Growth/habit*: canopy or understory deciduous tree
- *Bark, leaves*: smooth gray bark, simple palmate leaf with 3-5 lobes, opposite, toothed margins, stems reddish
- *Flowers, fruit*: Flowers red, unisex, early; fruit red, winged double samara



Acer rubrum



Gordonia lasianthus (loblolly bay) 299

- *Family*: Theaceae (tea)-Camellia, Stewartia
- *Bark, leaves*: bark is light gray, thick, furrowed when older. Lvs. Alternate, evergreen, leathery, elliptic, crenate to serrate margins, short petioles
- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs solitary, perfect, white, petals crinkly, many yellow stamens; frt a woody capsule, 1.5 cm, splits apically, seed flat, winged



Gordonia lasianthus



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loblolly bay
Gordonia lasianthus
Photo by Vic Ramey
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Magnolia virginiana (sweetbay) 1001

- *Family*: Magnoliaceae
- *Bark, leaves*: bark smooth and light gray; leaves elliptic, alt., evergreen, leathery, with silvery-white lower surfaces
- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs off-white, perfect, cup shaped, 9-12 petals, fragrant; fruit a persistent conelike cluster of follicles, each with red seed.



Magnolia virginiana (sweetbay)



Nyssa sylvatica var. *biflora* (swamp tupelo) 823

- **Family:** Cornaceae (dogwood) (Nyssaceae)
- **Bark, leaves:** bark dark, brown or gray, deeply furrowed; lvs. decid., alt., green when young, older lvs. often spotted.
- **Flowers, fruit:** flwrs. Unisex, same plant, male flwrs small, yellow; female flwrs and frt typically in pairs on a conspicuous stalk; frt a drupe, blue-black when mature



Nyssa sylvatica var. *biflora* (swamp tupelo)



Nyssa sylvatica var. *biflora*

- *Nyssa ogeche*
- *Nyssa aquatica*

Persea palustris (swamp bay) 256

- *Family*: Lauraceae
(Cinnamon, avocado, sassafras)
- *Bark, leaves*: gray to brown, rough, vertically fissured on older trees; lvs simple, evergreen, leathery, short petiole, undersides brown-pubescent, sparse to dense. Often has insect galls, aromatic when crushed
- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs perfect, yellow-ish, 2 sets of 3 sepals, frt blue-black drupe



Persea palustris (swamp bay)



Can resemble other “bays”:

Persea borbonia, *Gordonia lasianthus*, *Magnolia virginiana*

Quercus laurifolia (swamp laurel oak) 126

- *Family*: Fagaceae (oak, beech)
- *Bark, leaves*: gray and smooth, darker w/shallow plates when older; lvs alternate, thin, tardily decid., shape variable, (oblance., diamond) lustrous, underside dull green, tufts of hairs in some vein axils.



Quercus laurifolia (swamp laurel oak)

- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs inconspicuous, unisex, male flwrs in catkins; frt an acorn, two years to mature, squat shape
- *Habit, look-alikes*: canopy tree, can be buttressed in inundated areas. *Q. nigra*, *Q. virginiana*, *Q. hemisphaerica*.



Quercus laurifolia (swamp laurel oak)



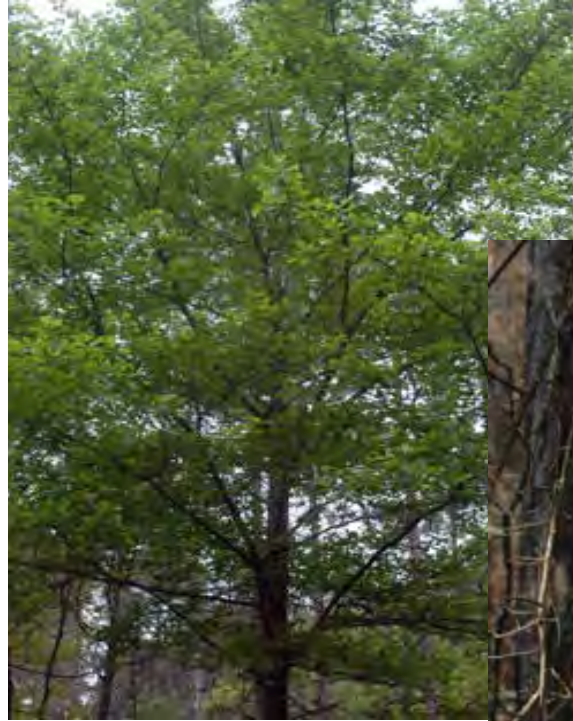
Quercus nigra (water oak) 77

- *Family*: Fagaceae (oak, beech)
- *Bark, leaves*: thin, gray to brown, smooth turning darker, plated with age; lvs alternate, tardily decid., (bare in late winter) shape spatulate to broadly three-lobed, bristle-tipped.



Quercus nigra (water oak)

- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs inconspicuous, unisex, male flwrs in catkins; frt an acorn, two years to mature, ovoid to round.
- *Habit, look-alikes*: canopy tree, frequently “weedy.” *Q. laurifolia*, *Q. virginiana*, *Q. hemisphaerica*.



Sabal palmetto (cabbage palm) 283

- *Family*: Arecaceae
(Palm family)
- *Bark, leaves*: trunk partially covered with bases of petioles of broken off dead lvs (“boots”) gray, fibrous; lvs. Evergreen, spirally arranged from term. bud. Fan shaped w/long midrib



Sabal palmetto (cabbage palm)

- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs perfect, small, white, clustered on lateral branches; fruit a round drupe, black, shiny, one-seed
- *Habit, look-alikes*: palm tree of moist to wet areas, variable size, to 30m. When young, *S. minor*, *S. etonia*, *Serenoa repens*.



Sabal palmetto (cabbage palm)



Salix caroliniana (Carolina willow) 2207

- *Family*: Salicaceae
(willow, cottonwood)
- *Bark, leaves*: brown, ridged and furrowed on larger trees; lvs alternate, deciduous, whitish beneath, shape narrowly lanceolate, toothed margins



Salix caroliniana (Carolina willow)

- *Flowers, fruit*: flowers unisexual, male and female on separate plants, in dense catkins; fruit a small capsule, minute seeds with each w/cluster of cottony white hair
- *Habit, look-alikes*: tree or shrub, often in dense thickets. *S. nigra*, *S. floridana*



Salix caroliniana (Carolina willow)



Taxodium distichum (bald-cypress) 752
Taxodium ascendens (pond-cypress) 1524
(*Taxodium* spp. 476)

- **Family:** Cupressaceae
(Taxodiaceae) cedar, juniper, redwood
- **Bark, leaves:** bark gray to brown with elongated “shredded” plates or strips; lvs alt., spirally arranged, linear, awl like, appressed to branches and somewhat erect in *T. ascendens*; needle-like but soft and in feathery, flattened arrangement in *T. distichum*.



Taxodium distichum (bald-cypress) *Taxodium ascendens* (pond-cypress)

- **Cones:** woody female cones, round, scaly. pollen in male cones; separate.
- **Habit/growth form, look-alikes:** med. to large deciduous conifer, buttressed base, “knees” often present. *T. ascendens* typically assoc. with still waters, *T. distichum* with flowing.



Cephalanthus occidentalis (buttonbush) 2471

- *Family*: Rubiaceae
- *Bark, leaves*: reddish brown and smooth, ridged and furrowed w/age, often w/corky lenticels; lvs deciduous, opp. or whorled, simple, ovate, 7-15 cm long, often reddish petioles



Cephalanthus occidentalis (buttonbush)

- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs perfect, white, funnel-form, single pistil extending beyond flwr. in globose heads on a long stalk. Frt~5 mm ball, in head, persists
- *Habit, look-alikes*: shrub w/arching branches. Somewhat resembles Viburnum, Cornus.



Cephalanthus occidentalis (buttonbush)



Cliftonia monophylla (buckwheat tree, black titi) 49

- *Family*: Cyrillaceae
(Cyrilla, Cliftonia)
- *Bark, leaves*: grayish
and smooth, rougher
w/age; lvs alt.,
evergreen, leathery,
bright green, veins not
evident, short stalked to
sessile.

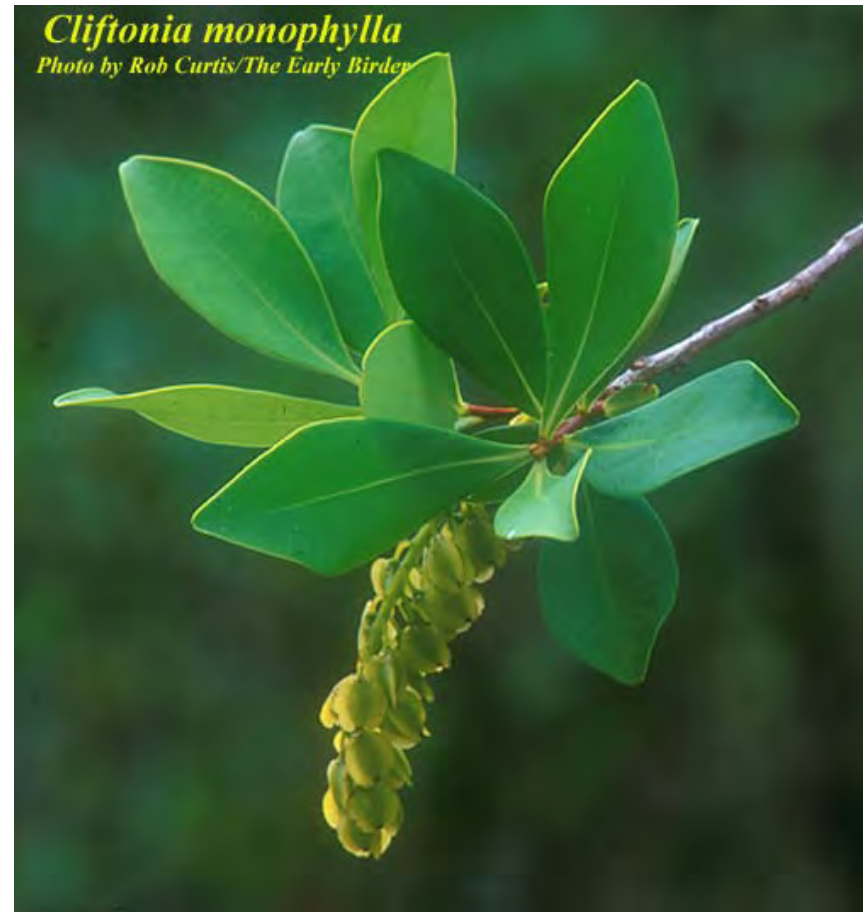


Cliftonia monophylla

photo by Gil Nelson, from his book
Shrubs and Woody Vines of Florida

Cliftonia monophylla (buckwheat tree, black titi) 49

- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs perfect, radially symmetrical, 5 white petals (turn pinkish), 1 pistil, in a short raceme held erect; fruit a winged drupe, hangs down
- *Habit, look-alikes*: shrub or small tree, can form dense stands. *Cyrilla racemiflora*,



Cyrilla racemiflora (Titi) 796

- *Family*: Cyrillaceae (Cyrilla, Cliftonia)
- *Bark, leaves*: brownish gray, becoming spongy and peeling to reveal pinkish inner bark; lvs semi-evergreen to deciduous, alt., simple, veins conspicuous on both sides; ends of stems flattened



Cyrilla racemiflora (Titi)

- *Flowers, fruit*: flowers perfect, radially symmetrical, white, in racemes, radiate from previous season's stem; frt a small, dry, brown capsule, fruiting stalks persist much of year
- *Habit, look-alikes*: shrub or small tree, often densely colonial, esp. in fire supressed areas. *Cliftonia monophylla*, Ericaceous shrubs.



Hypericum fasciculatum(marsh St. John's wort)

597

- *Family*: Clusiaceae
(Hypericum, Triadenum)
- *Bark, leaves*: cinnamon to gray bark is corky, loose, exfoliates in wide strips, showing buff or cinnamon color. Lvs. Linear and needle-like, tightly revolute, usu. only midrib showing on underside



Hypericum fasciculatum(marsh St. John's wort)

597

- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs yellow, 5 petals, pinwheel shape, frt a capsule, first yellow-green, drying golden brown, persists
- *Habit, look-alikes*: erect, multi-branched shrub, mature plants variously shaped, often very bushy. *H. brachyphyllum*, *H. nitidum*, *H. lissophloeus*, *H. chapmanii*.



Distinguishing needle-leaved *Hypericum* spp.

Hypericum brachyphyllum
Photo by Guy Anglin



Hypericum chapmanii
Photo by Shirley Denton



Hypericum lissophloeus
Photo by Guy Anglin



© Ron Lance

Ilex cassine (dahoon holly) 854

- *Family*: Aquifoliaceae
- *Bark, lvs*: bark gray, smooth, often w/lichen; lvs. Alt., evergreen, leathery, pubescent petioles, 2-14 cm long. Spine-tipped or a few spines.
- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs small and white, unisex (and separate plants), fruit bright red “holly berry”



Ilex cassine var. *myrtifolia* (little leaved holly) 96

- **Family:** Aquifoliaceae
- **Bark, leaves:** bark gray with corky thickenings and pronounced lenticels; lvs. alternate, evergreen, v. small, narrow (.5 to 3 cm long), spine-tipped, dark green, shiny, glabrous above and below.



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Ilex cassine var. *myrtifolia* (little leaved holly) 96

- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs unisex, white, small 4-petals; male in clusters, female solitary; frt globose bright red drupe.
- *Habit, look-alikes*: evergreen shrub or sm. tree. Branches perpendicular. *I. vomitoria*, *I. cassine*.



Distinguishing evergreen, wetland *Ilex* spp.

- *Ilex cassine*: usu. med. straight tree, bark smooth throughout; lvs. Larger (2-14 cm); branches ascending.
- *Ilex cassine* var. *myrtifolia*: shrub to small tree, corky bark below, lvs. v. small, narrow, branches perp.
- *Ilex vomitoria* : shrub, small lvs. entirely crenate margins wider than myrt., tangled branches.



Itea virginica (Virginia willow) 149

- *Family*: Iteaceae (Itea)
- *Bark, leaves*: bark thin, brownish; lvs. alt., thin, deciduous, elliptic, oval, oblanceolate., margins finely toothed, lower surface sparsely pubescent, prominently veined.



Itea virginica (Virginia willow) 149

- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs perfect, small, 5 linear petals, long bottle-brush like racemes, arching, hanging; frt a conic-cylindric capsule.
- *Habit, look-alikes*: understory shrub, to 2 m tall. Cyrilla racemiflora, Ericaceous shrubs



Ericaceae shrubs

- *All*: simple, alt. leaves, no stipules, typically a hanging, bell-shaped flower (exceptions)
 - *Eubotrys racemosa* (*Leucothoe racemosa*) (133): flwrs tubular in racemes, style extends beyond flwr, persists; frt a capsule, minutely serrated thin leaves, deciduous.
 - *Lyonia lucida* (201): flwrs round, in clusters in leaf axils, white to hot pink; frt a round capsule; lvs leathery, glabrous, raised marginal vein.



Ericaceae shrubs

- *Vaccinium corymbosum* (19) including *V. elliotii* (8) (now lumped): shrubs to ~4m, flwrs cylindrical, white to lt. pink, in clusters on shoots of the season; fruit a blueberry! (dull or shiny blue-black berry) *V. corymbosum* individuals with green woody stems, *V. elliotii* serrated, smaller leaf.



Myrica cerifera (wax myrtle, bayberry) 2705

- *Family*: Myricaceae
- *Bark, leaves*: bark pale grayish brown, in inundation often w/expanded lenticels and adventitious roots; lvs evergreen, thin, alternate, lance to elliptic, margins with a few teeth toward tips, glandular dotted on both sides, very aromatic when crushed



Myrica cerifera (wax myrtle, bayberry)

2705

- *Flowers, fruit*: flwrs unisex, on separate plants; frt a knobby drupe covered in whitish gray wax, clustered on branchlets.
- *Habit, look-alikes*: evergreen shrub to small tree, to 12 m tall, usually multi-stemmed and colonial; *M. caroliniensis* (less common, larger thicker leaf that is glaucous underneath, larger darker fruit)



Myrica cerifera
Photo by Shirley Denton

Sambucus nigra subsp. *canadensis* (elderberry)

384

- *Family*: Adoxaceae
(Sambucus, Viburnum)
- *Bark, leaves*: bark thin, gray-brown with prominent lenticels; lvs. opp, pinnately compound (some lower bi-pinnately), to 25 cm long, lance shaped, margins serrate, stinky when crushed



Sambucus nigra subsp. *canadensis* (elderberry) 384

- *Flowers, fruit*: flowers perfect, small white, 5 petals, in flat topped, terminal cymes; frt fleshy, purple-black drupe.
- *Habit, look-alikes*: soft stemmed med. to large shrub, to 4 m, clonal and in thickets in wet and disturbed areas. *Cicuta mexicana* (alternate leaves, herbaceous), *Nasturtium officinale* (alt. lvs, herb., frt a linear pod), habitat differs.

