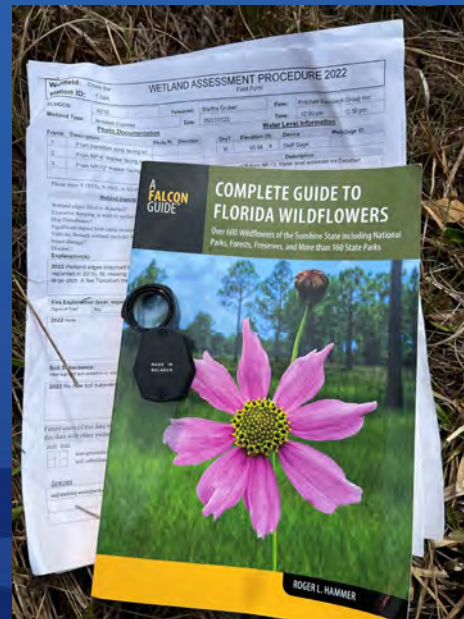


# 2023 WAP Training Plant ID 101

Prepared by:  
Francisco Faria  
Staff Environmental Scientist



- Panicum verrucosum → Kellochloa verrucosa
  - Pluchea rosea → Pluchea baccharis
- Polygonum hydropiperoides → Persicaria hydropiperoides
- Rubus argutus → Rubus pensilvanicus
- Sapium sebiferum → Triadica sebifera
- Ampelopsis arborea → Nekemias arborea
- Conyza canadensis var. pusilla → Erigeron canadensis L.
  - Myrica cerifera → Morella cerifera
  - Panicum anceps → Coleataenia anceps
  - Panicum rigidulum → Coleataenia rigidula



# PLANTS

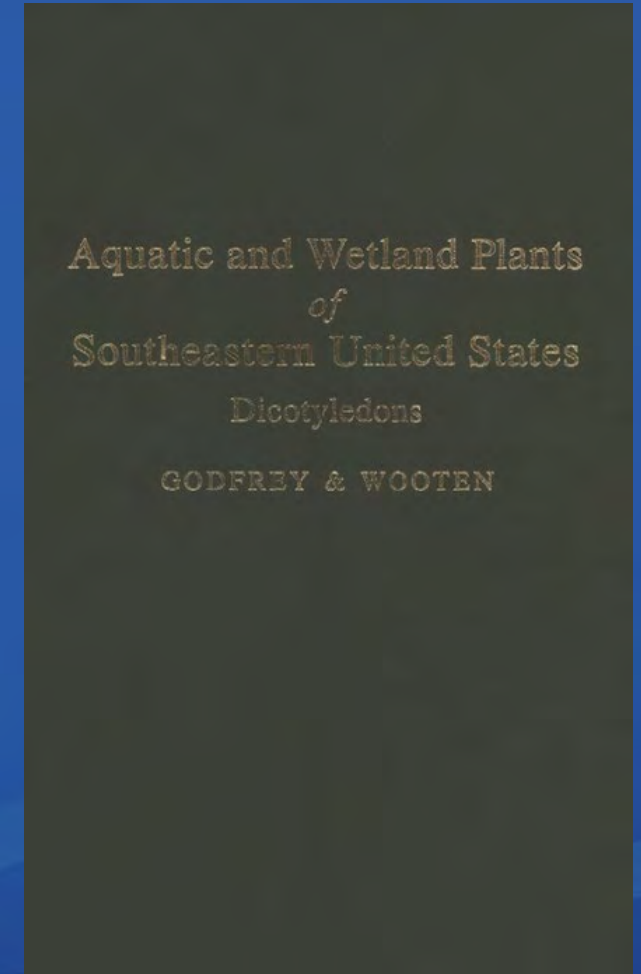
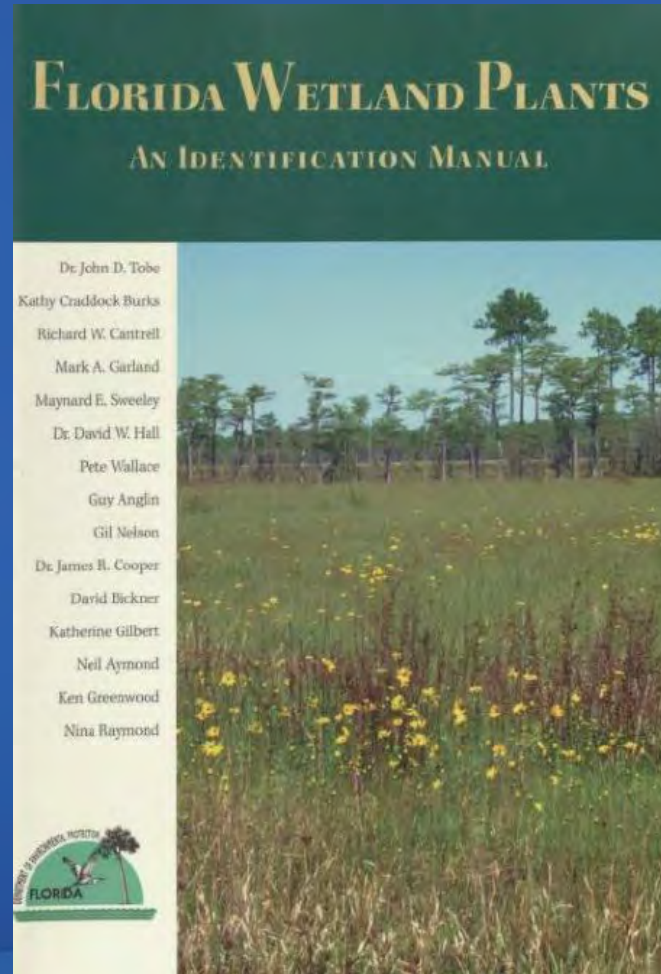
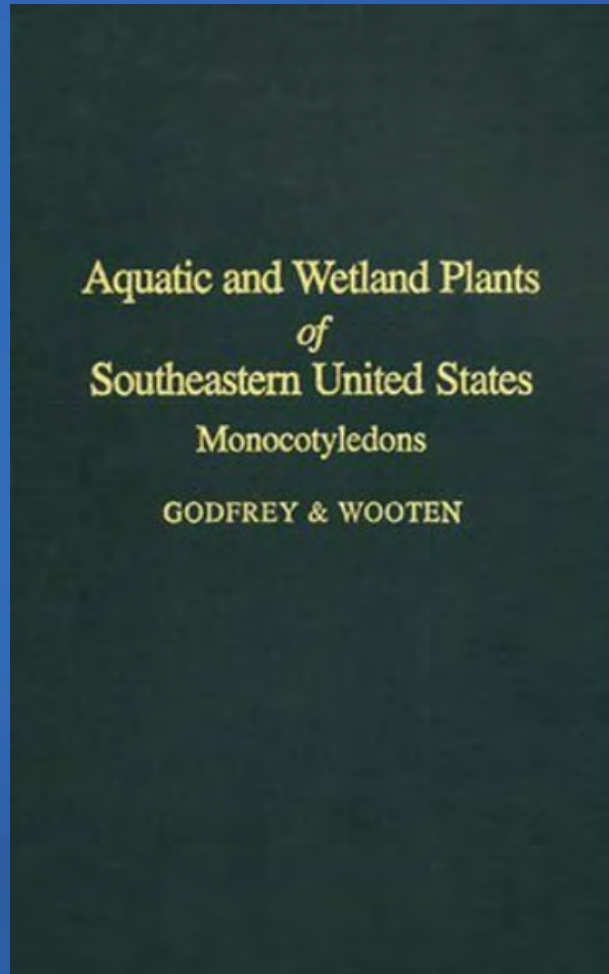


Field Identification Guide to  
Plants Used in the  
Wetland Assessment Procedure (WAP)















April 2008, Third Edition

# Recommended Resources

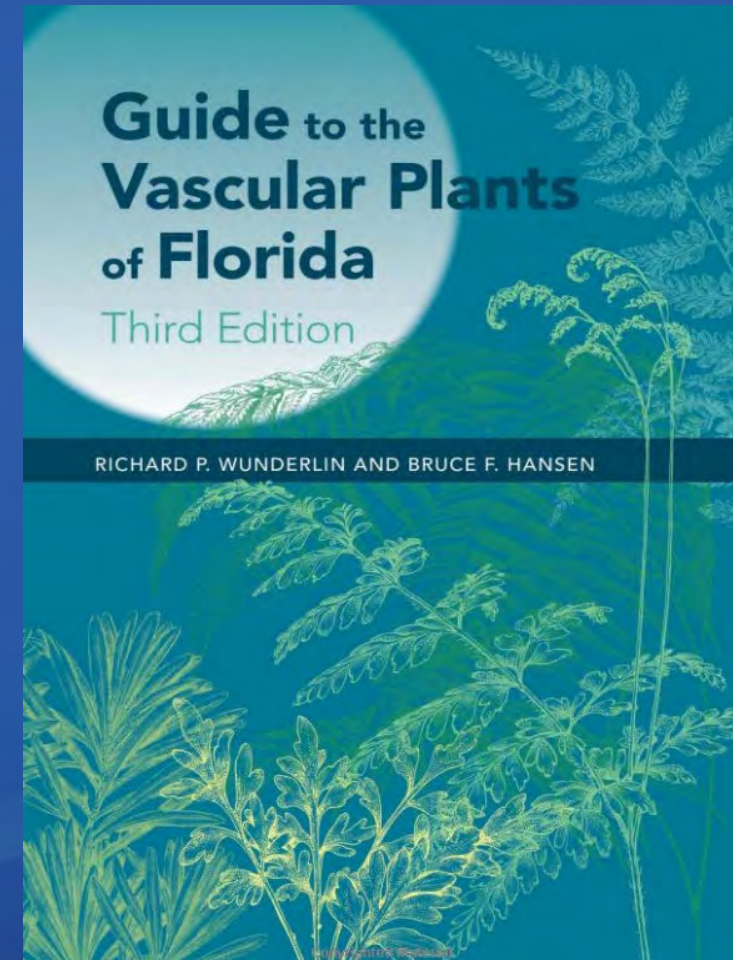
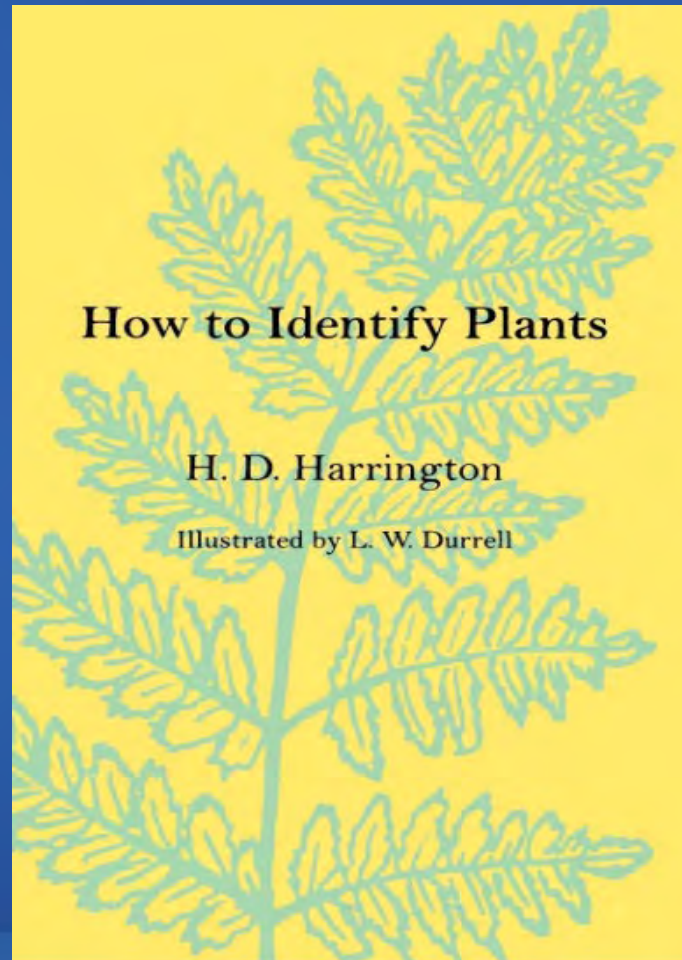
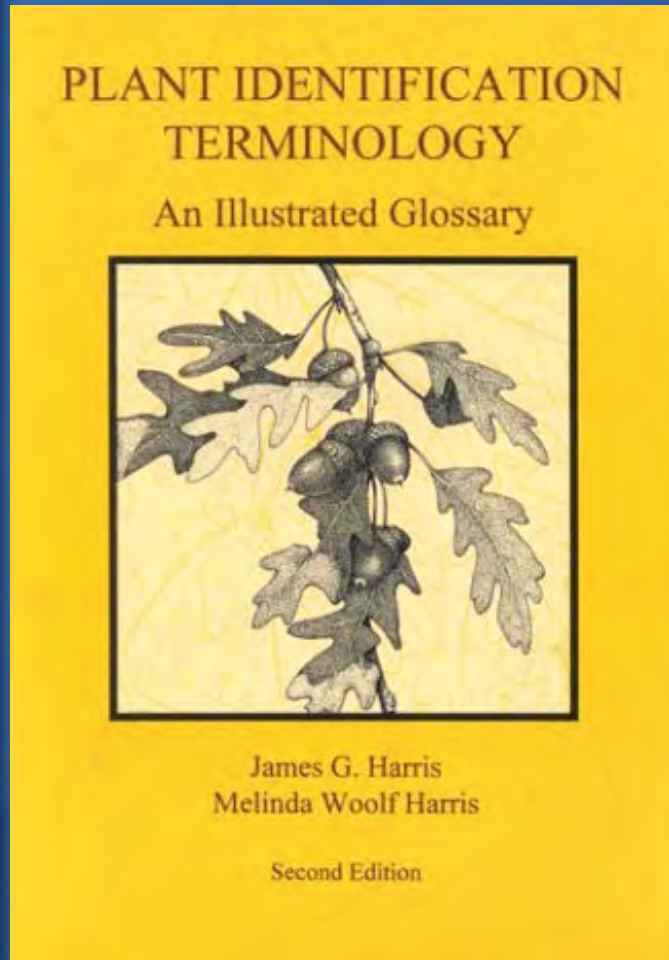


<https://archive.org/details/florida-wetland-plants>

	Monocot	vs	Dicot
<b>Seed</b>	 1 cotyledon		 2 cotyledons
<b>Root</b>	 Fibrous roots		 Tap roots
<b>Flower</b>	 Have petals in multiples of 3		 Have 4 or 5 petals
<b>Leaf</b>	 Narrow, parallel veins		 Oval or palmate, net-like veins
<b>Vascular Bundles</b>	 Scattered		 Ringed
<b>Pollen Grains</b>	 Have 1 pore or furrow		 Have 3 pores or furrows

# Monocot vs. Dicot Breakdown

# Additional Resources



# Online Resources

The screenshot shows the 'Atlas of Florida Plants' website. At the top, there is a search bar with a dropdown menu for 'Scientific Name' and a 'Search' button. Below the search bar are navigation links: Home, Browse By, Search, Herbarium Specimen Search, Institute for Systematic Botany, Links, About, and References. The main content area is divided into several sections:
 

- Plant Photos:** Features a large image of a plant with dark berries and a 'Browse Photos' button.
- About the Plant Atlas:** Contains introductory text about the atlas, mentioning over 4,700 species of native or naturalized plants in Florida, and provides a link to learn more.
- Browse the Plant Atlas By Map:** Includes a map of Florida with colored regions and a prompt to 'Select a county below to view plant species for that county'.
- Institute for Systematic Botany:** Provides information about the institute's history and research focus, with a link to learn more.
- Outside Links:** Lists links to other plant-related resources.
- How to link to the Plant Atlas:** Offers instructions on how to dynamically link to individual species pages using specific URL syntax.

<https://florida.plantatlas.usf.edu/>

<https://www.inaturalist.org/>

The iNaturalist logo consists of a stylized green bird icon above the word 'iNaturalist' in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the logo are the logos for the California Academy of Sciences and National Geographic.

## Flora of the Southeastern United States

Edition of April 24, 2022

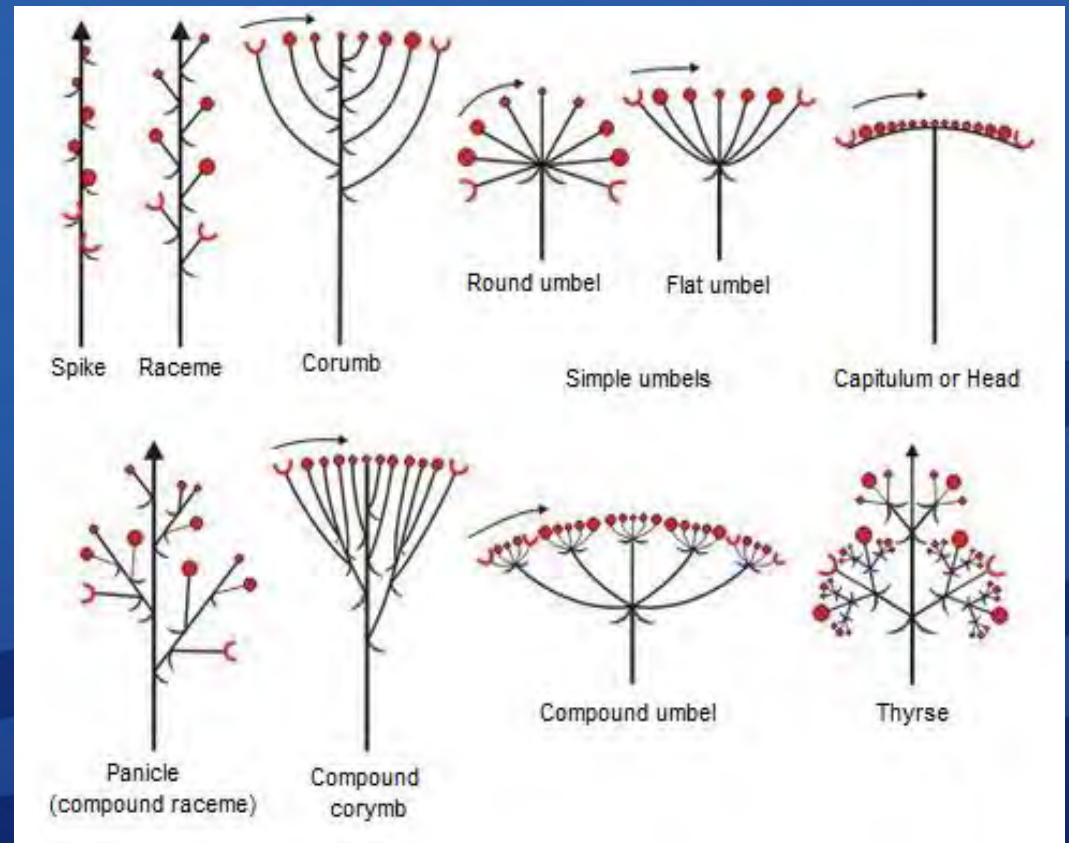
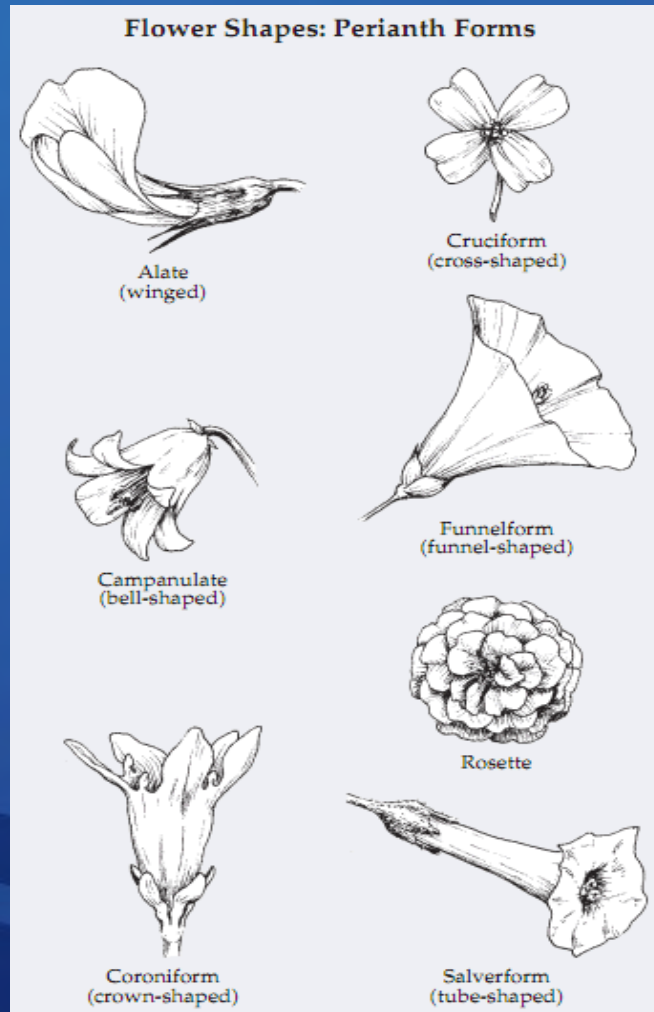
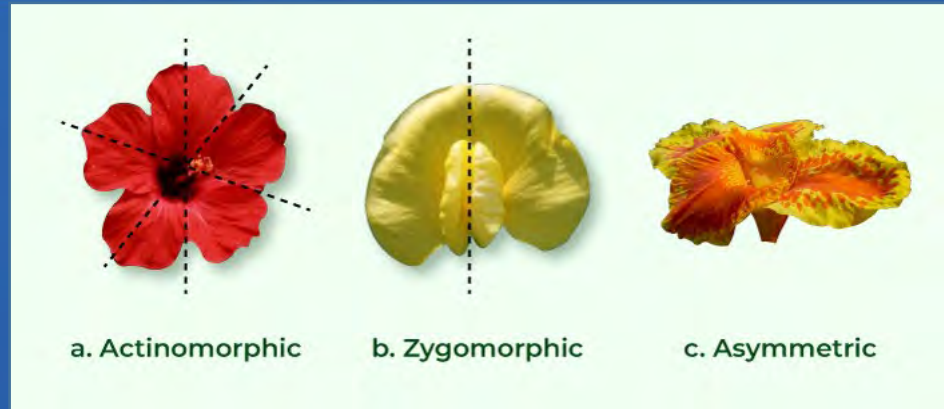
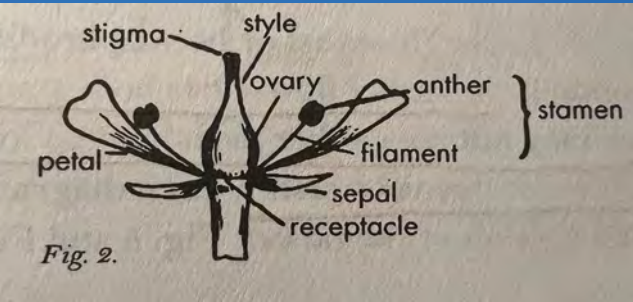


by  
**Alan S. Weakley and the Southeastern Flora Team\***  
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Herbarium (NCU)  
 North Carolina Botanical Garden  
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
 Campus Box 3280  
 Chapel Hill NC 27599-3280

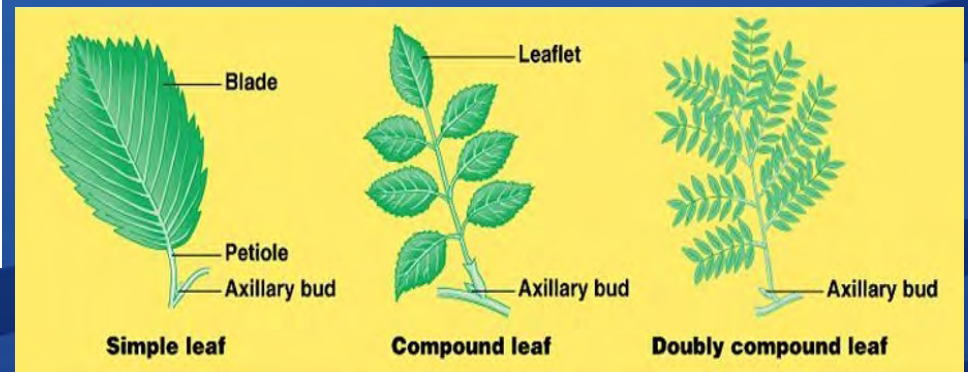
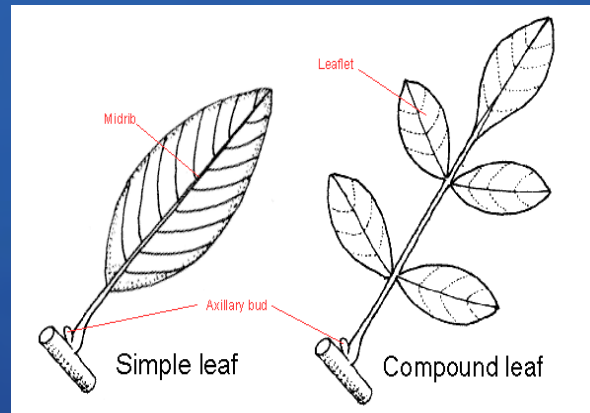
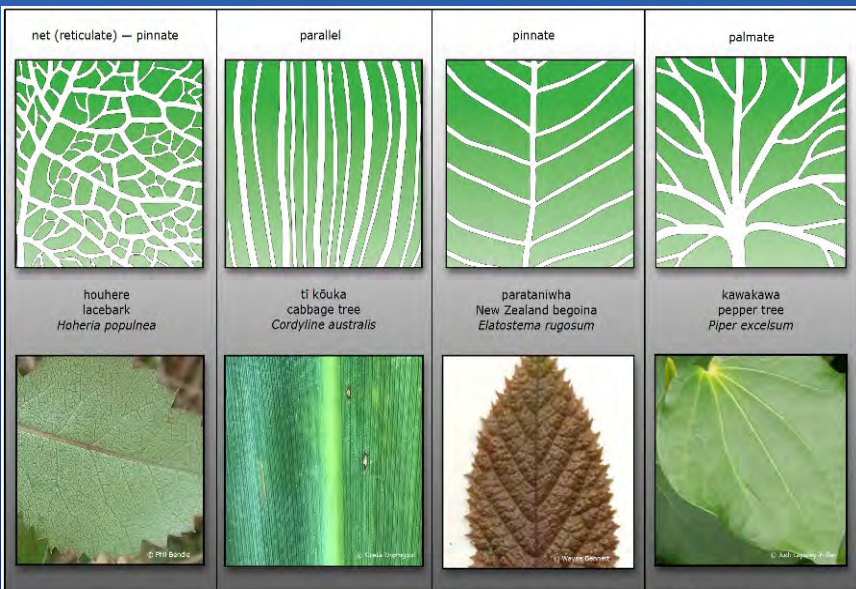
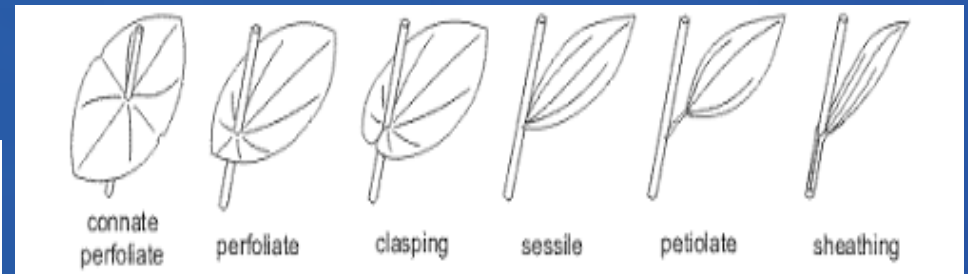
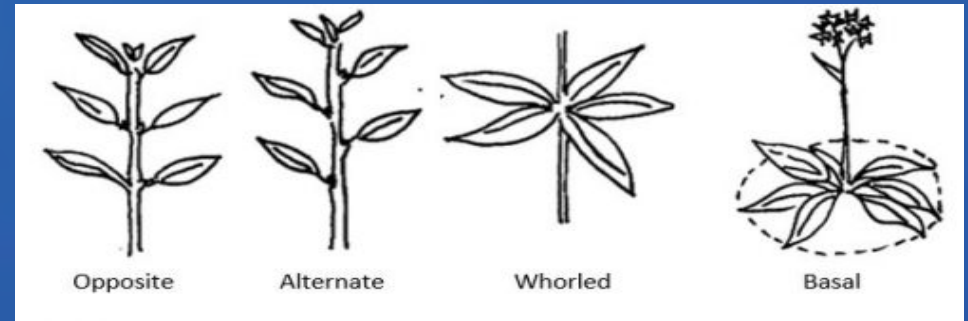
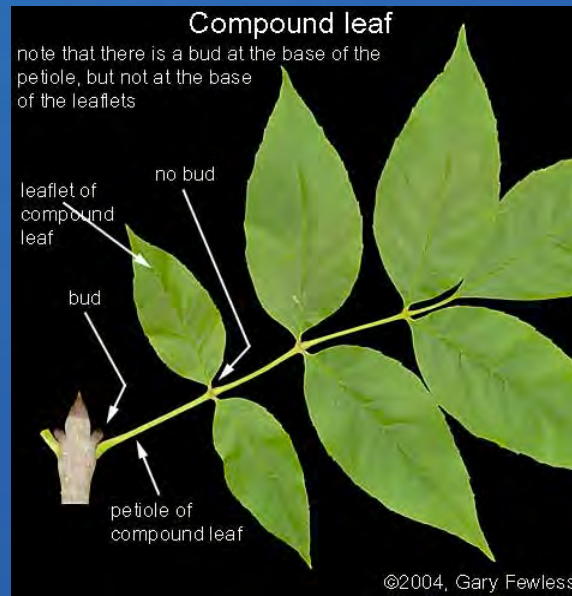
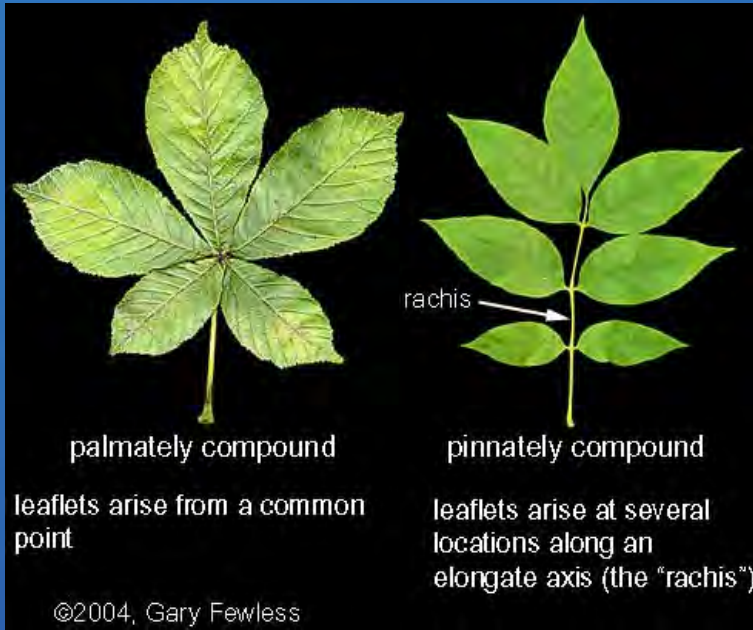
Produced from the FloraManager database system  
 by Michael T. Lee

<https://ncbg.unc.edu/research/unc-herbarium/flora-request/>

# Flower Terminology/Growth Descriptions



# Leaf Description





# Leaf Description Continued

## MARGIN

**Ciliate**  
with fine hairs

**Crenate**  
with rounded teeth

**Dentate**  
with symmetrical teeth

**Denticulate**  
with fine dentition

**Doubly Serrate**  
serrate with sub-teeth

**Entire**  
even, smooth throughout

**Lobate**  
indented, but not to midline

**Serrate**  
teeth forward-pointing

**Serrulate**  
with fine serration

**Sinate**  
with wave-like indentations

**Spiny**  
with sharp stiff points

**Undulate**  
widely wavy

## LEAF SHAPES

asymmetrical    acuminate    mucronate    emarginate    ovoid    obovate

cordiform    oblong    spatulate    oval    lancéolate    acicular

## LEAF MARGINS

undulate    sinuate    serrate    dentate    lobate    scalloped    palmate

digitate    bipinnatisect    tripinnatisect    pinnatisect    palmatisect    pedate

palmatilobate    bipartite    tripartite    palmatipartite    pinnatipartite    pinnatifid

## Apices (Tips)

Acute    Acuminate    Obtuse    Truncate    Mucronate    Emarginate    Cuspidate

## Bases

Cuneate    Acute    Obtuse    Cordate    Oblique    Sagittate    Hastate    Truncate    Auriculate

## Margins

Entire    Serrate    Serrulate    Doubly Serrate    Dentate    Crenate    Incised    Sinuate-Undulate    Lobed

## LEAF MARGINS

undulate    sinuate    serrate    dentate    lobate    scalloped    palmate

digitate    bipinnatisect    tripinnatisect    pinnatisect    palmatisect    pedate

palmatilobate    bipartite    tripartite    palmatipartite    pinnatipartite    pinnatifid

- ❖ Important to identify EVERYTHING along transect
- ❖ **EXTRA** important to properly identify WAP species as accurately as possible
- ❖ Mistakes impact scoring
- ❖ Mistakes over a span of years inaccurately portrays system being assessed \*\*Data credibility\*\*

**Upland (U)** - Plant species that are not expected to be seen in wetlands. It is possible that a few of these species may be found along wetland edges, but are not expected throughout the transition zone.

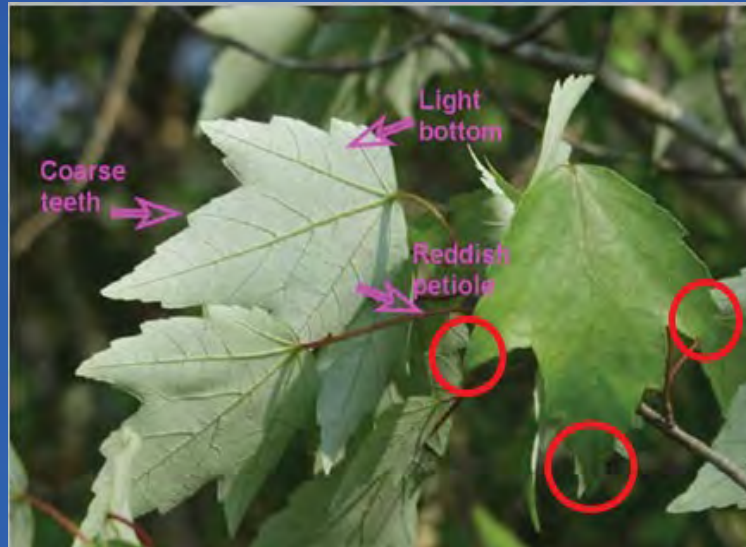
**Adaptive (AD)** - Plant species designated as FAC or Upland by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), but are commonly seen in the transition zone in limited numbers. Adaptive plants are considered transition zone plants when they are found in the outer deep or deep zones. It is not abnormal to find AD species in low numbers and distribution in the transition zone.

**Transition (T)** - Plant species commonly found in the transition zone, and designated either FACW or OBL by DEP.

**Outer Deep (OD)** - Plant species commonly found in the outer deep zone, and designated either FACW or OBL by DEP.

**Deep (D)** - Plant species commonly found in deep zone, and designated either FACW or OBL by DEP.

## Acer rubrum (OD) vs. Liquidambar styraciflua (T)



### Acer rubrum

- 3 leaf lobes
- Leaves opposite
- Winged seeds (samaras)  
\*\*\*helicopters\*\*\*

### Liquidambar styraciflua

- 5 leaf lobes
- Leaves alternate
- Seeds are spiny & “woody”

## Ampelopsis arborea (AD) vs. Campsis radicans (T)



*Ampelopsis arborea*  
Photo by Fred Nation



Shelley Denton, May 2000

### Ampelopsis arborea

- Doubly compound leaves, widest at base
  - Red petioles
- Leaves alternate but opposite on tendrils
- Flowers small, greenish-white



*Campsis radicans*  
Photo by Alan R. Franck



*Campsis radicans*  
Photo by John R. Park



*Campsis radicans*  
Photo by Virginia Ducey  
USF Herbarium Slide Collection

### Campsis radicans

- Singly compound leaves
- Green petioles
- Leaves opposite, NO tendrils
- Trumpet-shaped, red-orange flower

# Amphicarpum muehlenbergianum (OD) vs. Panicum hemitomon

## Amphicarpum muehlenbergianum

- White hyaline margin along leaf edge
- Leaves bluish-green. Blades up to 4”
  - Old leaves curl
- Stems up to 3’ long (decumbent)



## Panicum hemitomon

- White hyaline margin NOT present
- Bright green leaves. Blades up to 12”
  - Old leaves straight
  - Stems up to 6’ long

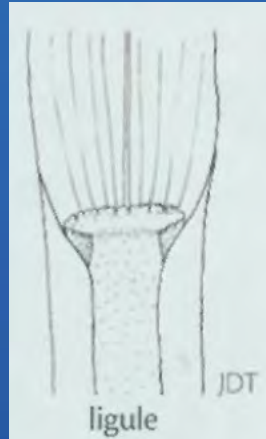


# Andropogon glomeratus (T) vs. Andropogon virginicus (AD)

## Andropogon glomeratus

- Leaves will fold but not far up the stalk
- Leaves are medium in size, green, & often blotched with red spots
- Greater inflorescence branching
  - Longer ligules

Andropogon glomeratus



Andropogon glomeratus



## Andropogon virginicus

- Leaves tend to stay folded further up stalk
- Blades shorter than *A. glomeratus*, more bluish in color, more hairy
- Less inflorescence branching (not as bushy)
  - Shorter ligules



# Andropogon glomeratus var. glaucopsis (OD) vs. Andropogon virginicus var. glaucus (U)

## Andropogon glomeratus var. glaucopsis

- Longer leaves
- Bushier than *A. virginicus*
- Purple color at base and whitish chalkiness



## Andropogon virginicus var. glaucus

- Blue-white chalky character typically in dry uplands
- Leaves shorter than 35 cm
- NOT purple-colored at base



## Baccharis spp. (AD) vs. Ilex glabra (AD)

### Baccharis spp.

- Leaves with shallow lobes or coarse teeth
- Fruit heads appear feathery or cottony



### Ilex glabra

- Leaves have a few blunt teeth near the tip
- Fruits a black drupe (NOT edible)





## Bacopa caroliniana (OD) vs. Bacopa monnieri



### Bacopa caroliniana

- Lemon scent when crushed
- Leaves clasp
- Stems hairy
- Flowers purple



### Bacopa monnieri

- NO lemon scent
- Leaves NOT clasp
- Stems NOT hairy
- Pinkish-white flowers

## Callicarpa americana (U) vs. Cephalanthus occidentalis (D)



- Callicarpa americana**
- Leaves opposite with stiff hairs, crenate-serrate
  - Fruit is 4-stoned, small globose (round) berry-like drupe
  - Flowers pale lavender-pink. Produced on new growth in leaf axils (no stalk) densely clustered.



- Cephalanthus occidentalis**
- Leaves opposite to whorled (3), glabrous (no hairs), NO teeth
    - Fruit a dense ball (“buttons”)
  - White flowers in a dense round head

## Centella asiatica (T) vs. Dichondra carolinensis (AD)

### Centella asiatica

- Leaves larger, shaped like a rounded arrowhead
- Margins slightly dentate (coarse teeth)



### Dichondra carolinensis

- Low/creeping
  - Leaves reniform or shaped like a horse hoof
- Base deeply cordate (heart shaped)

# Cinnamomum camphora (U) vs. Persea palustris (OD)



## Cinnamomum camphora

- Leaf underside glaucous
- Three veins on leaf base
- Crushed leaves camphor smell

## Persea palustris

- Leaf underside pubescent
- One vein on leaf base
- Crushed leaves bay smell
- Insect galls common on older leaves

## Cirsium nuttallii (T) vs. Cirsium horridulum



### Cirsium nuttallii

- Typically unbranched from a basal rosette
  - Lower stem conspicuously winged



### Cirsium horridulum

- MORE spines, especially on the phyllaries below flowers
- Outer whorl of spiny bracts that hide the true involucre

## Diodia virginiana (OD) vs. Gratiola ramosa (T)



### Diodia virginiana

- Teeth absent from leaves
- Flowers white, NOT tubular



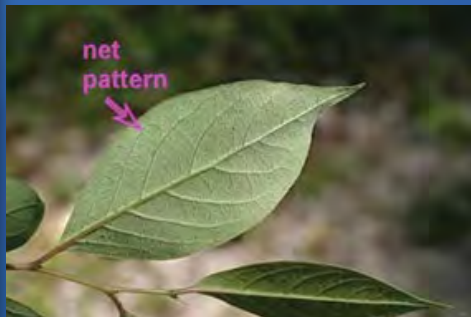
### Gratiola ramosa

- Leaves stiffly upward pointing with a few teeth
- Flower white and tubular

# Diospyros virginiana (AD) vs. Nyssa sylvatica var. biflora (D)

## Diospyros virginiana

- Leaves often hairy when young, shiny and glabrous (not hairy) when older
- Leaves widest at middle
- Net patterned veins on leaf underside



## Nyssa sylvatica var. biflora

- Often swollen at trunk base
- Leaves variable, longer than wide, may be widest at or above middle
- Lack net pattern veins on leaf bottom



## Drymaria cordata (AD) vs. Lindernia grandiflora (T)



### Drymaria cordata

- Stems stiff
- Flowers small, white, sticky (will stick to shoes/pets/socks)

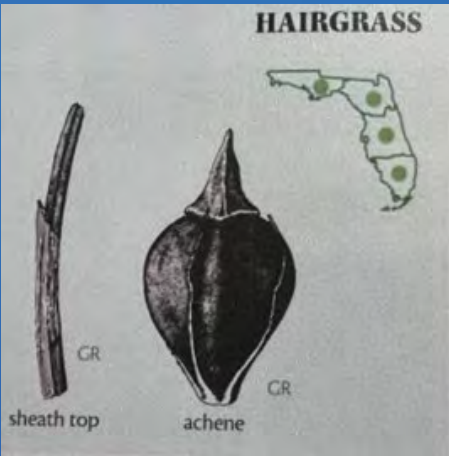
### Lindernia grandiflora

- Stems weak
- Flowers light lavender spotted with violet, bilateral symmetry



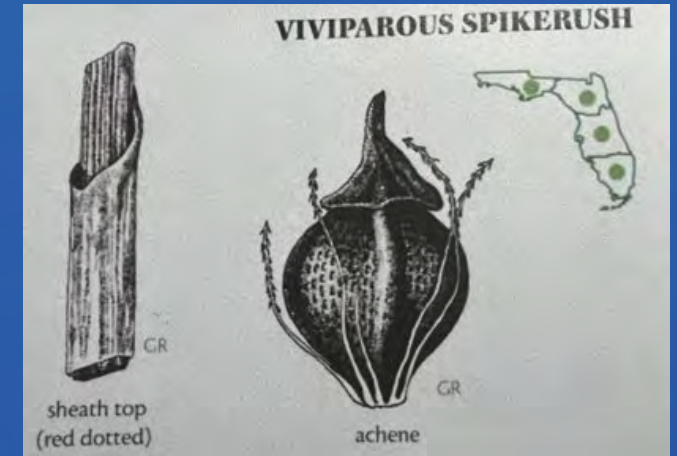
# Eleocharis baldwinii (T) vs. Eleocharis vivipara

**\*\*\*Both species can exhibit vivipary\*\*\***



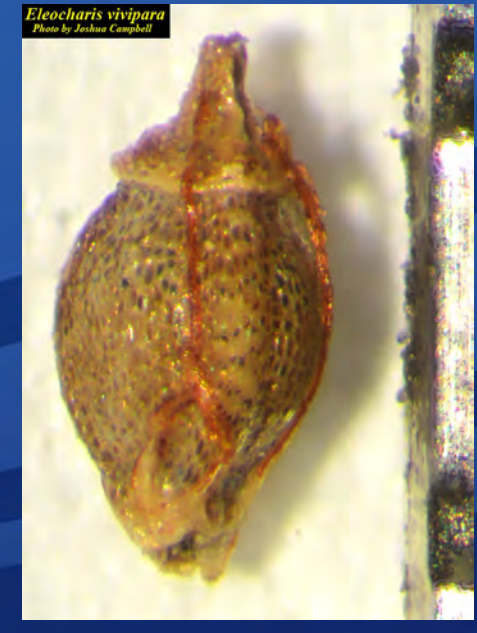
## Eleocharis baldwinii

- NO red spot on sheaths
- Achene bristles less pronounced



## Eleocharis vivipara

- Red spot on sheaths
- Achene bristles pronounced



# Eupatorium capillifolium (AD) vs. Eupatorium leptophyllum (OD)

Eupatorium capillifolium



*Eupatorium capillifolium*  
Photo by Betty Wargo



## Eupatorium capillifolium

- Stems of young growth very hairy
- Flowers white, surround racemes

*Eupatorium leptophyllum*  
Photo by Bob Upcavage



## Eupatorium leptophyllum

- Stems of young few or no hairs
- Flowers white, stick up on one raceme side



Eupatorium leptophyllum

## Fraxinus caroliniana (D) vs. Fraxinus pennsylvanica

### Fraxinus caroliniana

- 5-7 leaflets
- Medium sized, often multi-trunk
- Fruit: a winged, single samara



### Fraxinus pennsylvanica

- 5-9 leaflets
- Large sized, often single-trunk
- Fruit: samara, narrower compared against *F. caroliniana*



## Gordonia lasianthus (OD) vs. Magnolia virginiana (OD)



### Gordonia lasianthus

- Older bark furrowed and light gray
- Leaf margins crenate to serrate



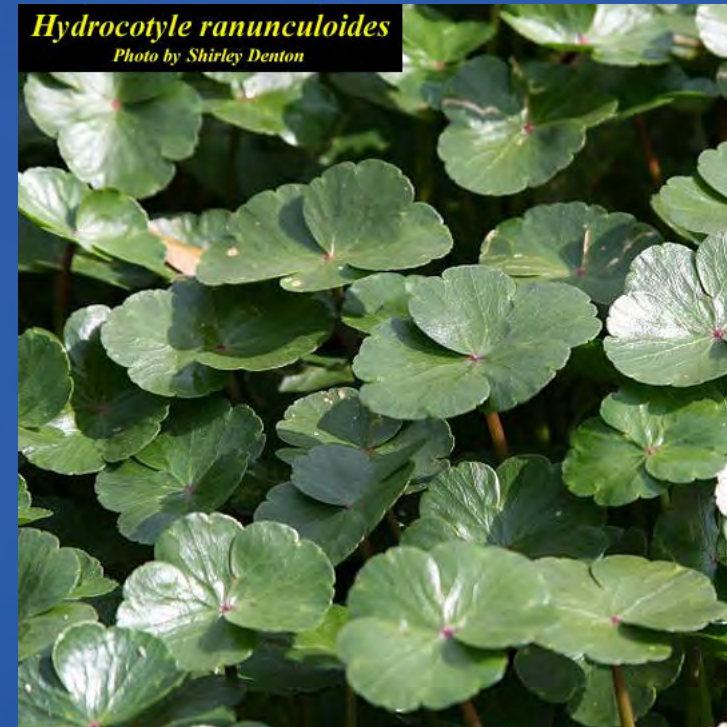
### Magnolia virginiana

- Bark smooth and light gray
- Leaves have NO teeth, are white on underside
- Produces conelike cluster of follicles, each with red seeds

## Hydrocotyle umbellata (OD) vs. Hydrocotyle ranunculoides

### Hydrocotyle umbellata

- Petiole attached in center of blade, round, deeply crenate



### Hydrocotyle ranunculoides

- Not peltate, notched almost to petiole base

# Hypericum myrtifolium (T) vs. Hypericum tetrapetalum (AD)



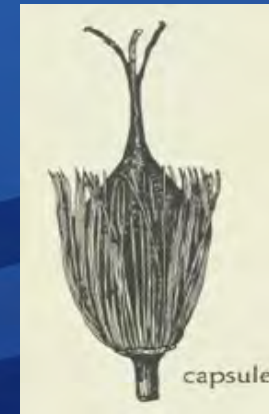
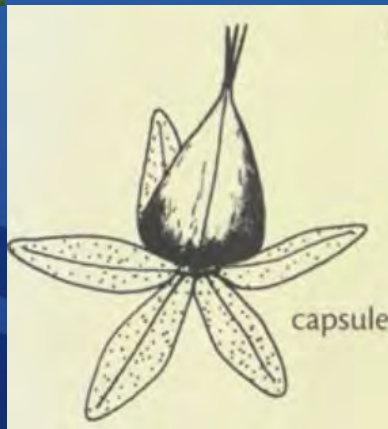
## Hypericum myrtifolium

- Leaves ovate-triangular
- Sepals large and leafy, 5 equal-sized, may remain on plant after petals fall



## Hypericum tetrapetalum

- Leaves broadly ovate, clasp the stem, sessile
- 4 petals and 4 sepals (2 large and 2 small)



## Itea virginica (OD) vs. Cyrilla racemiflora

### Itea virginica

- Leaf margins finely toothed, with lower surface being sparsely pubescent
- Bark thin & brownish



*Itea virginica*  
Photo by Glenn Fleming  
USF Herbarium Slide Collection



*Cyrilla racemiflora*  
photo by Gil Nelson, from his book  
Trees of Florida

### Cyrilla racemiflora

- Simple veins across leaf, conspicuous on both sides; ends in a flattened stem.
- Bark brownish gray (peel back bark surface to reveal pinkish inner bark!)



*Itea virginica*  
Photo by Rob Curtis/The Early Birder



*Cyrilla racemiflora*  
Photo by Bob Upcavage

## Lycopus rubellus (OD) vs. Hyptis alata

### Lycopus rubellus

- Flowers with bilateral symmetry in clusters at leaf axils.
- Leaves 5-12cm long (lance-ovate shaped)



### Hyptis alata

- Flower clusters on long stalks
- Leaves shorter & wider (diamond-shaped)



## Melothria pendula (T) vs. Vitis rotundifolia (AD)



### Melothria pendula

- Leaves alternate, small (2 – 8 cm), round, heartshaped base, 3-lobed.
- Fruit = mini “cucumber”



### Vitis rotundifolia

- Leaves opposite tendrils; glabrous (not hairy), heart-shaped, coarsely toothed.
- Fruit = muscadine grape (edible)

# Osmunda cinnamomea (T) vs. Woodwardia virginica



*Osmundastrum cinnamomeum*  
Photo by Mary Keim

## Osmunda cinnamomea

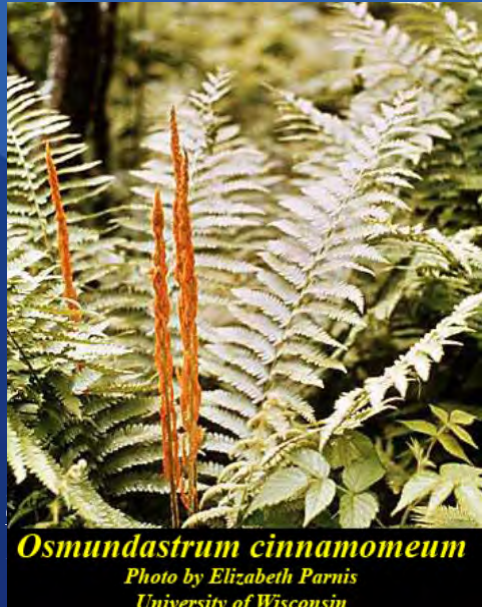
- Fronds grow in clumps
- Petiole dark brown base, mostly darker rachis
- Veins not reticulate



*Woodwardia virginica*



*Woodwardia virginica*  
Photo by Rob Curtis/The Early Birder



*Osmundastrum cinnamomeum*  
Photo by Elizabeth Parnis  
University of Wisconsin



*Osmundastrum cinnamomeum*  
Photo by Betty Wargo

## Woodwardia virginica

- Does NOT grow in clumps
- Chainlike areoles lining the mid-veins of pinnae and midrib



*Woodwardia virginica*  
Photo by Dennis Girard

## Panicum anceps (AD) vs. Panicum rigidulum (OD)



### Panicum anceps

- Scaly rhizomes
- Less “heavy” panicles



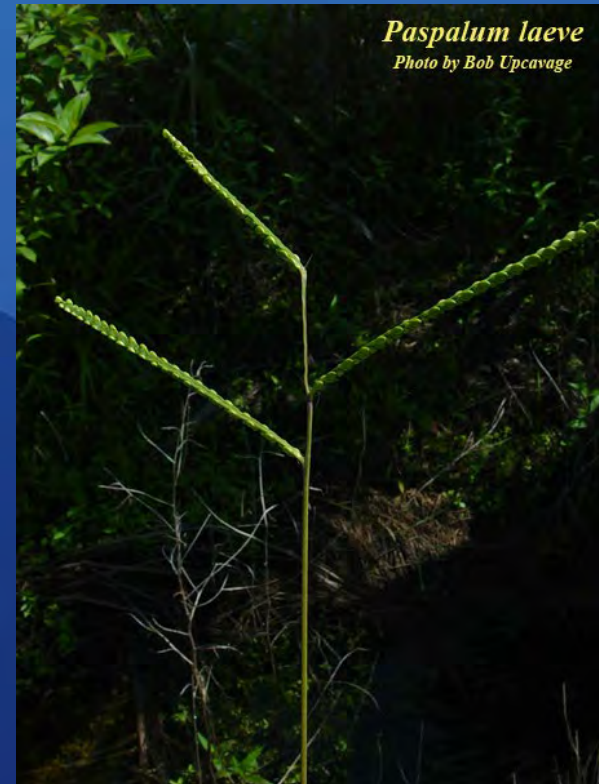
### Panicum rigidulum

- NOT rhizomatous
- “heavier” panicles
- Often plant has some dark purple coloration

## Paspalum laeve (T) vs. Paspalum setaceum (AD)

### Paspalum laeve

- Leaves rough to touch, more hairs on upper surface
  - Flowering stem up to 3.7' tall
    - Grows in tufts



### Paspalum setaceum

- Leaves shiny with evenly spaced hairs on margins
- Flowering stem up to 2.8' tall
- Grows in FLAT circular tuft



## Pinus elliottii (AD) vs. Pinus palustris (U)

### Pinus elliottii

- Needles 2 or 3 per fascicle
- Young shoots (candles) beige and small
  - Cones somewhat egg-shaped, prickly, and open.
- Lack grass stage
- Needles NOT clustered at tips of branches
- Smaller sheath on fascicle



### Pinus palustris

- Needles always 3 per fascicle.
- Young shoots (candles) large (fat) and white.
- Cones large and long, prickly
- Young trees have grass stage
- Needles tufted at end of branch
- Larger sheath on fascicle

## Pluchea rosea (OD) vs. Pluchea foetida



### Pluchea rosea

- Alternate leaves, clasping leaf base, margins serrate, often pink on edge
- Pink flowers



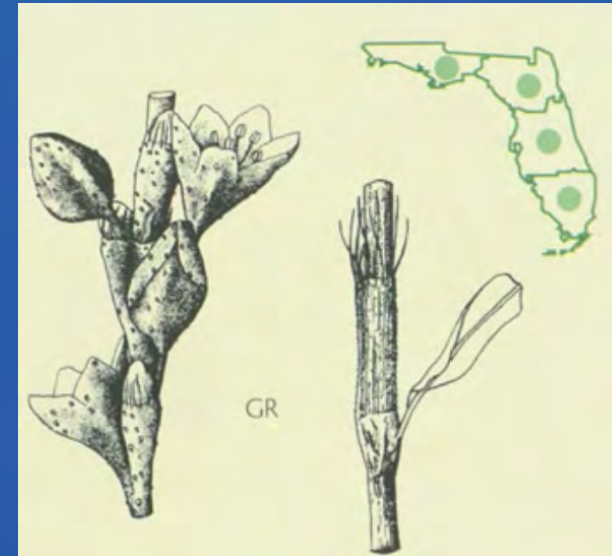
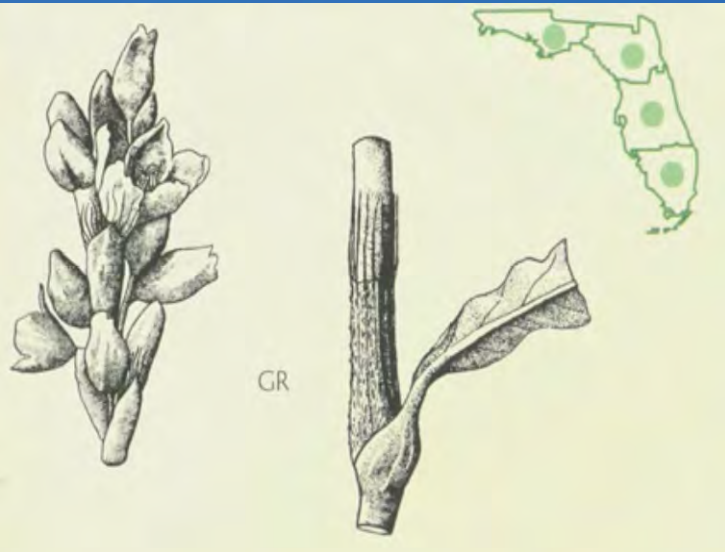
### Pluchea foetida

- Leaves shorter & rounder, alternate, sessile (no petiole), clasping, rough pubescent.
- Flowers in rounded cymes, white in color

# Polygonum hydropiperoides (OD) vs. Polygonum punctatum

## Polygonum hydropiperoides

- Flowers in long axillary racemes, pink to greenish-white
- Lack raised dots **(HAND LENS!)**



## Polygonum punctatum

- White flowers (never pink) covered with raised dots (punctate glands)



# Quercus laurifolia (T) vs. Quercus virginiana (U)

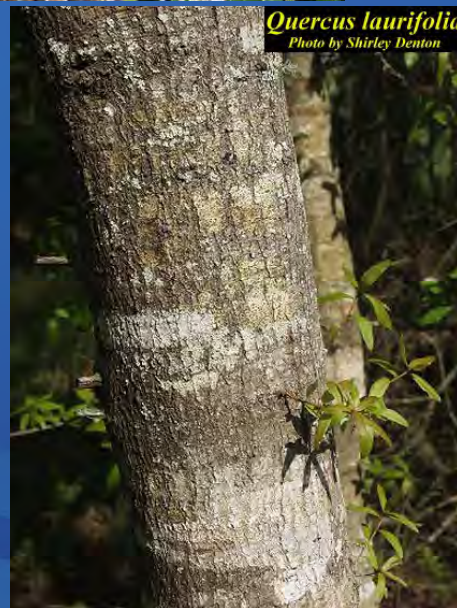
## Quercus laurifolia

- Straight trunk
- Smoother bark when young, develops broad flat ridges when older
- Uncurled leaves with few hairs
  - Buds pointed



## Quercus virginiana

- Trunk and large branches often leaning
- Rough dark brown bark with raised ridges
- Darker green leaves that are gray-green pubescent on bottom





## Saccharum giganteum (OD) vs. Phragmites australis

### Saccharum giganteum

- Grows in dense tufts
- Leaves long & wide, less prominent on flowering stems



### Phragmites australis

- Does NOT grow in tufts
- Many leaves on flowering stems

## Sambucus nigra subsp. Canadensis (AD) vs. Cicuta maculata



### Sambucus nigra

- Flower petals are NOT notched at the tip
- Leaves opposite, pinnately compound, leaflets serrated
- Stems woody with prominent lenticels



### Cicuta maculate

- Flower petals notched at the tip
- Leaves alternate, lower leaves usually 3-pinnately compound. Coarsely toothed
  - Stems herbaceous/glabrous

## Schinus terebinthifolius (AD) vs. Rhus copallinum

### Schinus terebinthifolius

- Fruit smaller, glossy, bright red “berries” in clusters
- Compound leaf with whitish leaf veins visible; leaf edge typically toothed



### Rhus copallinum

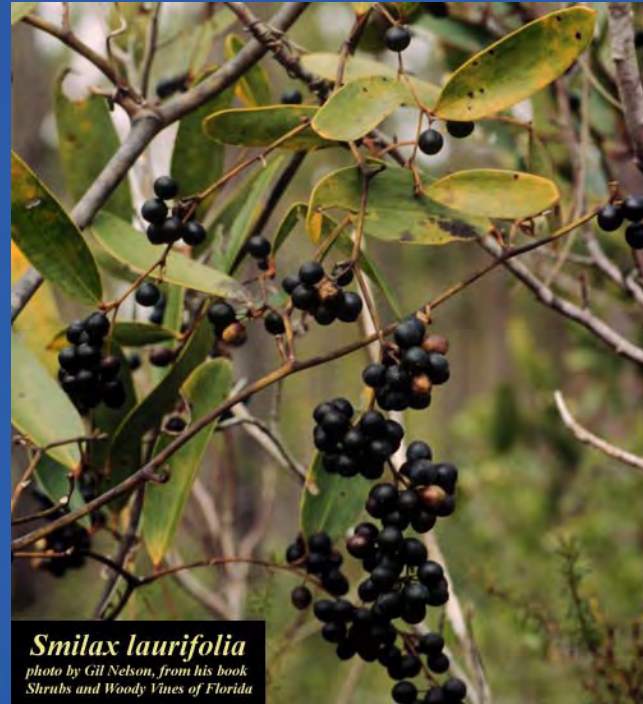
- Fruit in dense cluster of small, round, red, hairy “berries”
- Compound leaf, with a winged leafstalk
- Erect thin trunks with leaves concentrated at tips of branches



## Smilax bona-nox (AD) vs. Smilax laurifolia

### Smilax bona-nox

- At least some leaves have prickles on leaf margin
- Leaves often shiny but blotched (variegated) with distinctive ears (large lobes)



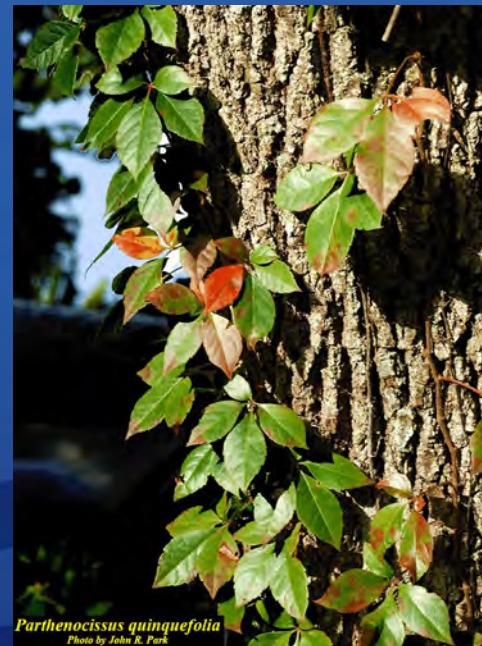
### Smilax laurifolia

- Prickles NOT observed on leaf margins
- Variegation far less commonly observed

# Toxicodendron radicans (AD) vs. Parthenocissus quinquefolia

## Toxicodendron radicans

- Alternate, compound leaves with three leaflets and reddish petioles; very variable



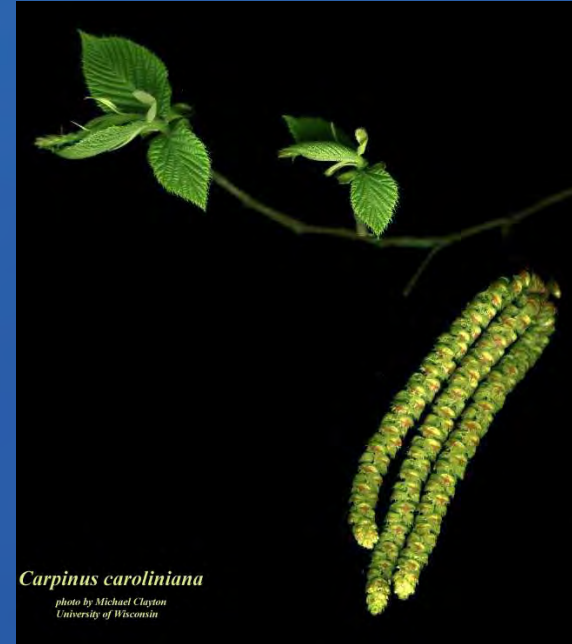
## Parthenocissus quinquefolia

- Five leaflets and climbs via coiling tendrils with “feet”

# Ulmus americana (T) vs. Carpinus caroliniana

## Ulmus americana

- Leaves alternate, two ranked with bases typically unequal (look slanted)
- Bark expressing flat plates



## Carpinus caroliniana

- Equal leaf bases
- Smooth bark over wood with “ripples” that look like muscles

## Vaccinium corymbosum (T) vs. Eubotrys racemosus

### Vaccinium corymbosum

- Leaves deciduous alternate, typically more than 3 cm long, NOT serrated
- Fruit a blue berry (edible)



### Eubotrys racemosus

- Leaves deciduous alternate, oval to widely lance-shaped blades with serrated margins
- Fruit is a capsule, brown/copper in color

# Video Content



- ❖ Trees 2:47
- ❖ Shrubs 37:31
- ❖ Ground Cover 44:08



# Questions?

