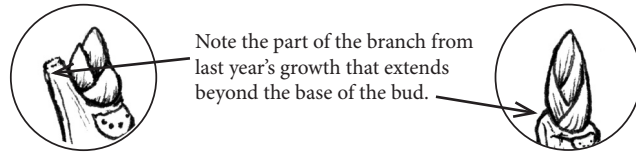


# GLOSSARY

**Terminal Bud:** The bud formed at the tip of the twig

**False Terminal Bud:** A lateral bud that assumes the function of the terminal bud. When the growing tip withers or falls away, the closest lateral bud to the twig tip substitutes as a terminal bud

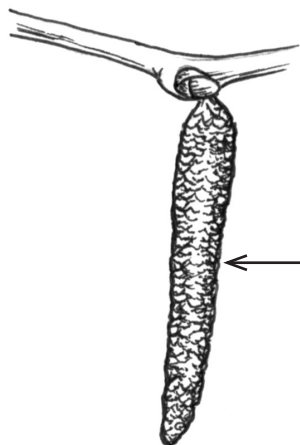


**Bud Scales:** Small scale-like structures that are modified leaves covering the bud during its winter dormancy

**Lateral Bud:** The buds formed on the side of a twig, not the bud at the end of the twig

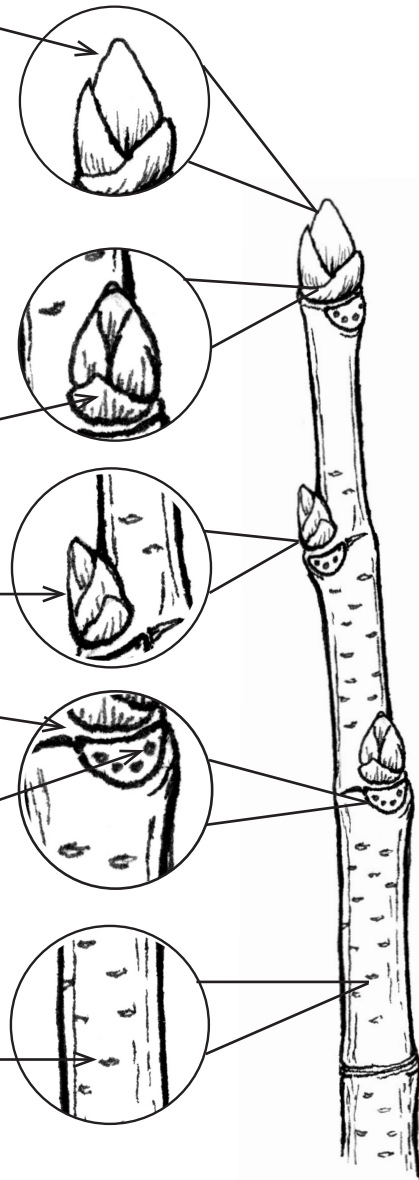
**Leaf Scar:** A scar left on the twig when the leaf falls

**Vascular Bundle Scars:** A small mark on a leaf scar indicating a point where a vein from the leaf was once connected with the stem

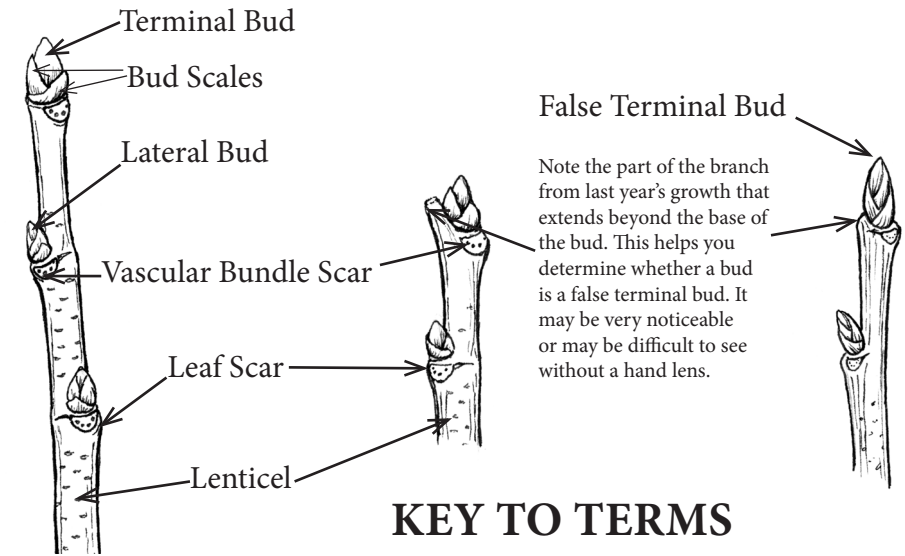


**Lenticel:** A small corky area or speck serving as a breathing pore

**Catkin:** A dense, cylindrical, often drooping cluster of flowers



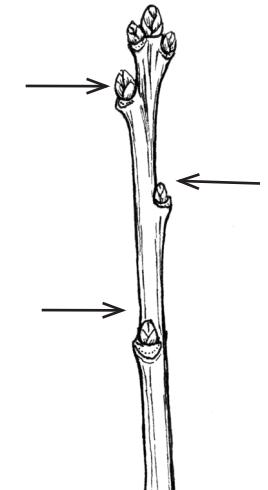
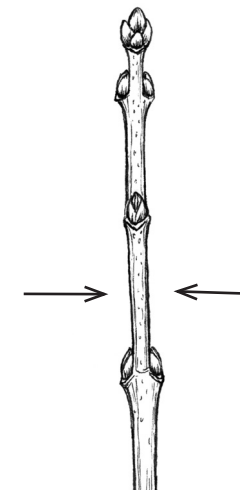
# WINTER TREE IDENTIFICATION KEY



## KEY TO TERMS

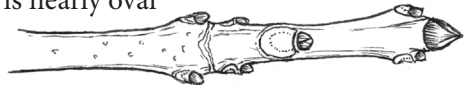

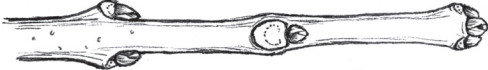

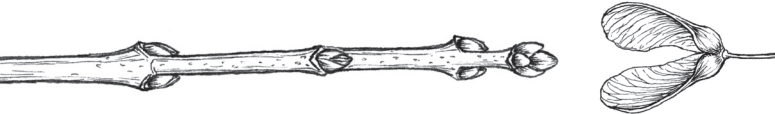
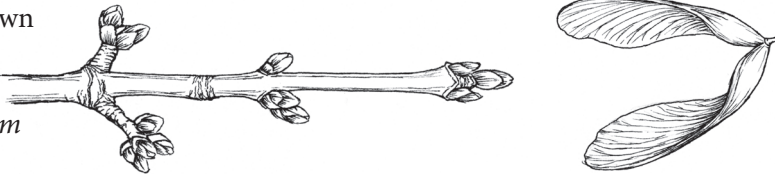

1. Leaf scars opposite...Got to 2 OR 1. Leaf scars alternate...Go to 3

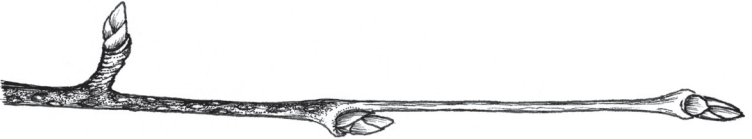
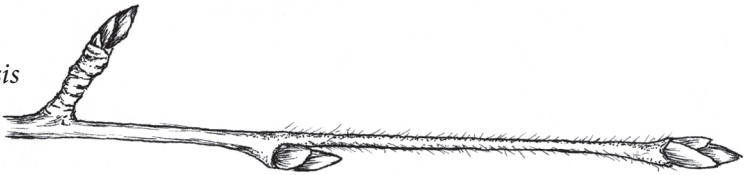



START HERE

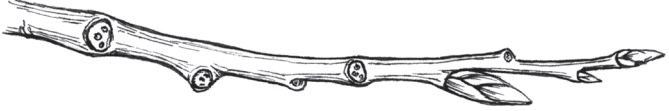

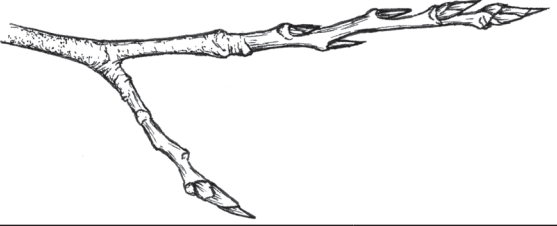






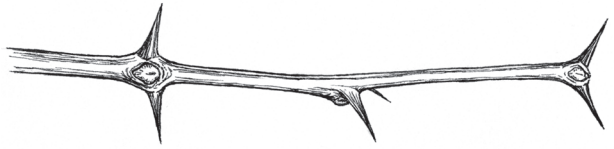
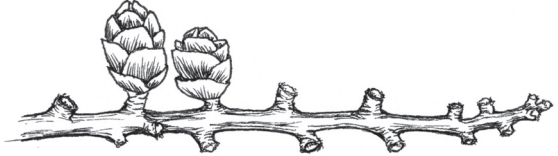
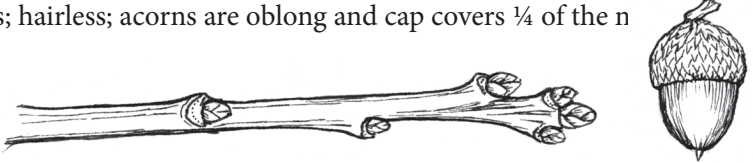
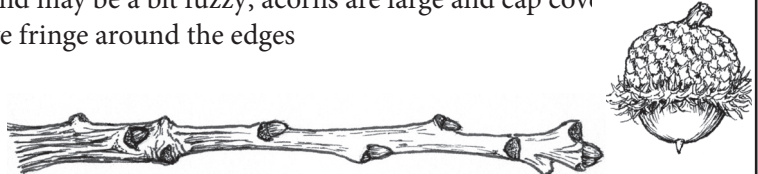
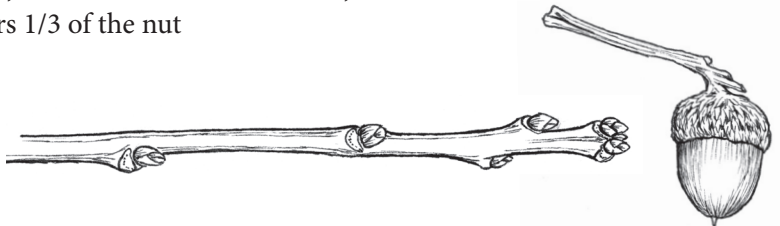
NEXT



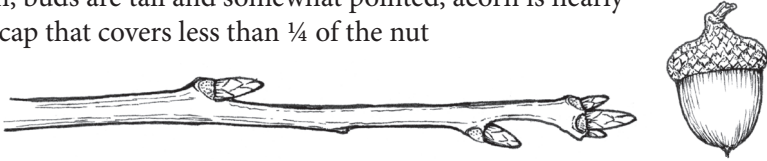

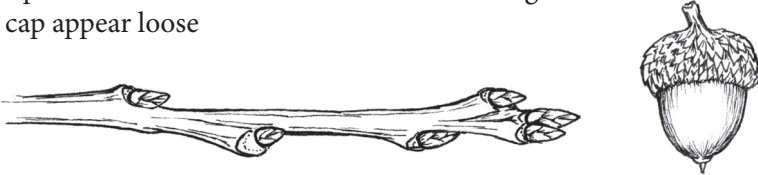






2	Vascular bundle scars are very numerous and joined in a line; buds are broadly rounded; twigs are fairly stout	<b>Fraxinus Ash</b> see 2a-c below
	2a. Terminal bud cone-shaped; first pair of lateral buds below the terminal bud are slightly below it on the branch; leaf scar is nearly oval <i>Fraxinus nigra</i> black ash	
	2b. Terminal bud is slightly cone-shaped; first pair of lateral buds below the terminal bud touch the bottom of the terminal bud; leaf scar is U-shaped and the lateral bud sits in the “notch” of the leaf scar <i>Fraxinus americana</i> white ash	
	2c. Terminal bud is rounded; first pair of lateral buds below the terminal bud touch the bottom of the terminal bud; the leaf scar is oval <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> green ash	
2	Vascular bundle scars 3-7, separate and distinct; Leaf scars narrow and crescent-shaped; twigs fairly slender	<b>Acer Maple</b> see 2d-g below
	2d. Terminal bud quite pointy and brown; twigs gray or brown, slender and shiny with lighter lenticels <i>Acer saccharum</i> sugar maple	
	2e. Terminal bud reddish and blunt; leaf scars V-shaped; Twigs dark red with small lenticels <i>Acer rubrum</i> red maple	
	2f. Terminal bud brownish to reddish and blunt; Twigs reddish brown <i>Acer saccharinum</i> silver maple	
	2g. Terminal bud blunt and rounded; buds are fuzzy and white; Twigs green to purplish, often with a gray or bluish coating on the surface <i>Acer negundo</i> boxelder	



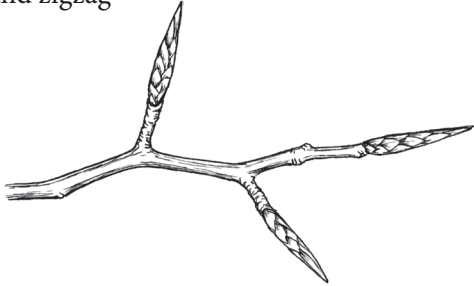


15	3 bud scales	<b>Betula Birch</b> See 15 a-c below
	15a. Not hairy twig, lenticels prominent; Buds brownish, acute; twigs straight; catkins often present; bark is reddish-brown with light lenticels on younger stems, later turning chalky to creamy white peeling in horizontal papery strips <i>Betula papyrifera</i> white birch	
	15b. Young twigs are hairy, older twigs smooth, shiny; catkins often present; bark often with wintergreen smell; bark is shiny bronze on younger stems peeling into thin papery strips <i>Betula alleghaniensis</i> yellow birch	
	15c. Twig is slender and orangish-brown; bark is salmon to rust-colored on young stems, developing papery scales peeling with several colors visible <i>Betula nigra</i> river birch	
15	Many bud scales	<b>Go to 16</b>
16	Bud scales in two vertical rows; floral buds distinctly larger and rounder than foliage buds; no catkins <i>Ulmus sp.</i> elm species	
16	Bud scales not in two rows; buds fairly uniform in size; bud tips point away from the twig; catkin usually present; seeds hang in clusters from branches and often stay on through winter <i>Ostrya virginiana</i> ironwood (hop hornbeam)	

	<p><b>11a.</b> Gummy buds that are very pointy; buds about ¾ inch long; lenticels visible; twig is somewhat yellowish</p> <p><i>Populus deltoides</i> cottonwood</p> 	
	<p><b>11b.</b> Not gummy buds and they may be somewhat fuzzy; no lenticels noticeable, bud scales are hairy; leaf scars are heart-shaped; twigs are gray-brown</p> <p><i>Populus grandidentata</i> big-toothed aspen</p> 	
	<p><b>11c.</b> Buds may or may not be gummy and are reddish-brown; twigs are reddish-brown and may have gray waxy film</p> <p><i>Populus tremuloides</i> trembling aspen</p> 	
	<p><b>11d.</b> Gummy buds that are 1 inch long; reddish-brown twigs; lenticels visible and somewhat orange in color; buds have fragrant odor</p> <p><i>Populus balsamifera</i> balsam poplar</p> 	
<b>12</b>	<p>Bud tips pressed against twig; twig light red-brown, zigzag, and have numerous light lenticels</p> <p><i>Celtis occidentalis</i> hackberry</p> 	
<b>12</b>	Bud tips not pressed against the twig	<b>Go to 13</b>
<b>13</b>	1 or 2 visible bud scales	<b>Go to 14</b>
<b>13</b>	3 or more visible bud scales	<b>Go to 15</b>
<b>14</b>	<p>2 visible bud scales; buds smooth, rounded, reddish; twigs smooth, reddish or greenish gray, and zigzag</p> <p><i>Tilia americana</i> American basswood</p> 	
<b>14</b>	<p>One hood-like bud scale; twigs often slender and flexible</p> <p><i>Salix sp.</i> willow species</p> 	

<b>3</b>	Twigs zigzag, red-brown, and armed with paired spines near the leaf scar	
	<p><i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> black locust</p> 	
<b>3</b>	Twigs without spines	<b>Go to 4</b>
<b>4</b>	<p>Leaf scars are densely clustered on very short peg-like spur branches; twigs slender and light brown</p> <p><i>Larix laricina</i> tamarack</p> 	
<b>4</b>	Leaf scars scattered along more or less elongate twigs	<b>Go to 5</b>
<b>5</b>	Terminal bud present	<b>Go to 6</b>
<b>5</b>	Terminal bud absent (false terminal bud)	<b>Go to 12</b>
<b>6</b>	Buds crowded near tip of twig	<b>Quercus Oak</b> <b>See 6a-f</b>
	<p><b>6a.</b> Short rounded buds; hairless; acorns are oblong and cap covers ¼ of the nut</p> <p><i>Quercus alba</i> white oak</p> 	
	<p><b>6b.</b> Twig is quite stout, yellow-brown and may have corky ridges; buds are small and rounded and may be a bit fuzzy; acorns are large and cap covers ½ of the nut and have fringe around the edges</p> <p><i>Quercus macrocarpa</i> bur oak</p> 	
	<p><b>6c.</b> Twig is light brown; buds are short and rounded; acorn is 1 inch long and cap covers 1/3 of the nut</p> <p><i>Quercus bicolor</i> swamp white oak</p> 	



6	6d. Twig is red-brown; buds are tall and somewhat pointed; acorn is nearly round with a flat cap that covers less than ¼ of the nut <i>Quercus rubra</i> red oak	
	6e. Twigs slender red-brown and shiny; buds are pointed; acorns have caps that enclose 1/3 to ½ of the nut <i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i> northern pin oak	
	6f. Twig is stout and red-brown to grey-green; buds are large, buff-colored, pointed and fuzzy; acorns have cap that covers ½ to 1/3 of the nut and the edges of the scales on the cap appear loose <i>Quercus velutina</i> black oak	
	6a.	6b.
	6c.	6d.
	6e.	6f.
		
	white oak <i>Quercus alba</i>	bur oak <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
		
	swamp white oak <i>Quercus bicolor</i>	red oak <i>Quercus rubra</i>
		
	n. pin oak <i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>	black oak <i>Quercus velutina</i>
	Go to 7	

7	Leaf scars heart shaped	Go to 8
7	Leaf scars other than heart-shaped or are inconspicuous	Go to 9
8	Twigs stout with numerous light lenticels; buds large, conspicuous; large terminal bud slightly hairy; fruit has a tan husk that is distinctly 4-ribbed; bark “shaggy” <i>Carya ovata</i> shagbark hickory	
8	Twigs stout and light brown; Buds gray and fuzzy; leaf scar described as “monkey face”; Pith chambered; fruit has green husk that contains a round, black nut <i>Juglans nigra</i> black walnut	
9	Leaf scar inconspicuous, buds narrow, acute, ¾ to 1 inch long, lance-shaped; Many bud scales and they overlap; twigs slender and zigzag <i>Fagus grandifolia</i> beech	
9	Leaf scars visible although not all large	Go to 10
10	More than 3 vascular bundle scars; Buds dark red and sticky <i>Sorbus americana</i> American mountain-ash	
10	3 vascular bundle scars or scars not distinct	Go to 11
11	Vascular bundle scars often not distinct; leaf scars small and semi-circular; buds are small with glossy scales; twigs reddish brown to gray usually with short spur shoots on older growth; twigs sometimes bitter-almond taste <i>Prunus serotina</i> black cherry	
11	Vascular bundle scars 3 distinct dots; Leaf scars nearly semi-circular; Bud scales finely hairy, buds sometimes sticky; twigs without flavor	<i>Populus</i> see 11a-d Next Page