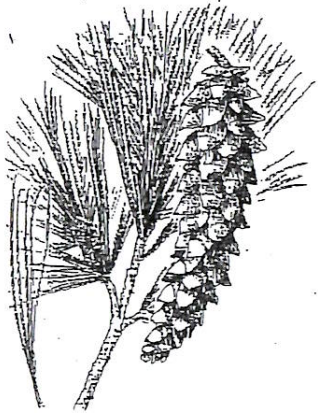
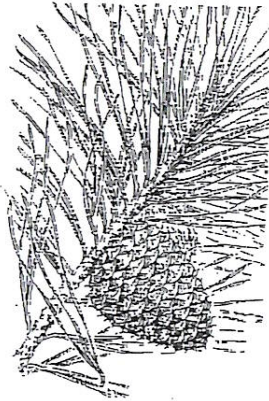


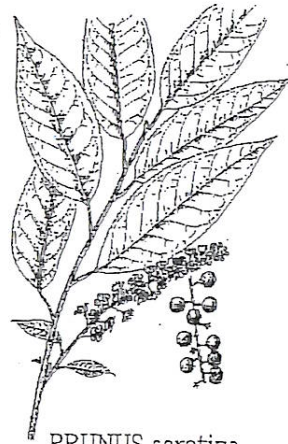
# TREE AND LEAF IDENTIFICATION KEY



*PINUS strobus*  
White Pine



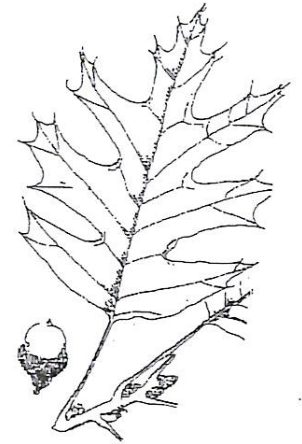
*PINUS rigida*  
Pitch Pine



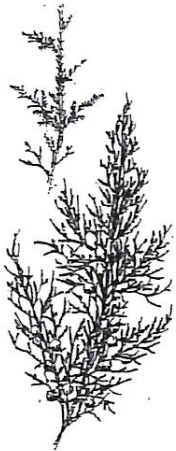
*PRUNUS serotina*  
Wild Black Cherry



*ILEX opaca*  
American Holly



*QUERCUS velutina*  
Black Oak



*JUNIPERUS virginiana*  
Eastern Redcedar



*ACER rubrum*  
Red Maple



*QUERCUS alba*  
White Oak



*FAGUS grandifolia*  
American Beech





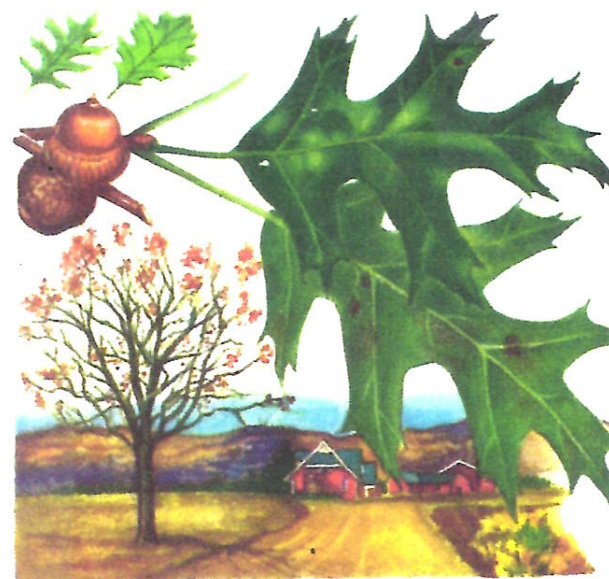
**NORTHERN RED OAK** is a widespread, common Oak of open woods. It is one of the largest Oaks, occasionally 125 ft. high. Its dark bark has conspicuous long, smooth plates between the furrows. Leaves hang vertically on the stalks, and the lobes are more triangular than other species. The leaves are smooth or lightly hairy along the veins. The middle lobes are largest. Acorns are rounded in a shallow cup, but vary considerably in size from tree to tree. Red Oak, with its close-grained, reddish-brown wood, is the most important timber tree among the Black Oaks. It is also a shade tree.

Height: 60 to 90 ft. Beech family



**WHITE OAK** is the best known Oak of all. Common throughout New England, its beauty attracted the attention of early colonists. In open places White Oak develops a broad, symmetrical crown and majestic appearance. The light gray, scaly bark is characteristic; so are the leaves, with five to nine rounded lobes. Young opening leaves are pinkish or red, as are the leaves in autumn. White Oak prefers rich soil but grows slowly. The large, pointed acorns in shallow cups were eaten by Indians. It is an outstanding lumber tree, used for furniture, boats, and barrels.

Height: 60 to 120 ft. Beech family



**BLACK OAK** is one of the most common eastern Oaks. It sets the pattern for Oaks with spiny leaves, dark bark, and acorns which take two years to ripen. Black Oak leaves are variable, dark and shiny with hairy veins. Those on the lower part of the tree are broader and have shallower lobes than the leaves higher on the trees. The orange inner bark is an important identifying characteristic even though you have to gouge with a knife to see it.

Acorns are medium-sized, with a broadly rounded, downy nut, about half enclosed in a deep cup. The wood is coarse, hard, and heavy.

Height: 60 to 90 ft. Beech family

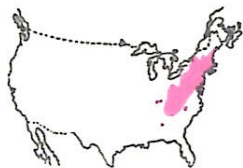






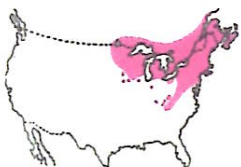
**PITCH PINE** prefers rocky, sandy regions and is tolerant of poor soil. Young trees on open ground may be rounded and symmetrical; older trees develop irregular crowns of gnarled branches. As the name indicates, these Pines are rich in pitch or resin, which makes small branches and cones fine for campfires. The gummy timber is brittle, of low grade, and of little economic value. Needles are in groups of three, 3 to 8 in. long, stiff and yellowish-green. The bark is reddish-brown, furrowed. The prickly, stemless cones persist on the trees for several years.

Height: 40 to 100 ft. Pine family



**EASTERN WHITE PINE** is a hardy and valuable northeastern conifer. Prized for its timber, it was cut ruthlessly for years. Few prime stands remain. New plantings are slowed by diseases and insects such as the white pine weevil. White pine blister rust, a fungus disease, spreads to White Pine from currants and gooseberries. Recognize White Pine by its soft, blue-green needles, five in a cluster. Cones are long and narrow, with thin, rounded scales; bark, dark with deep cracks; wood, light and soft. Western White Pine is similar; needles heavier, cones larger and longer.

Height: 100 to 200 ft. Pine family



**EASTERN REDCEDAR**, a Juniper, is a well-known tree of roadsides, fields, hedgerows. The leaves of Redcedar are sharp and needle-like on young shoots, scaly on older twigs. The fruit is a purplish berry. The reddish wood is used for chests, pencils, posts, and shingles. Cedar oil, distilled from leaves and wood, is used in household preparations. Along the Gulf and in Florida, Southern Redcedar, a related species, has smaller berries and thinner, drooping twigs. The name Cedar may be confusing, as it is used for several conifers not closely related.

Height: 30 to 70 ft. Pine family

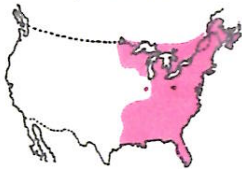






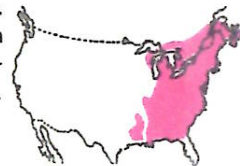
**RED MAPLE** lives up to its name in every season. In early spring, before the leaves appear, the blunt, red buds open, and clusters of red and orange flowers hang from the reddish twigs. As the leaves unfold, they too are reddish, gradually turning to green, paler underneath, with triangular lobes and small teeth. But the veins and the leafstalk keep their reddish tint all summer. The ripening fruit is red also. Red Maple is a widespread tree of swamps, river banks, and moist hill slopes. The soft, close-grained, light-brown wood is used for boxes, novelties, and woodenware.

Height: 60 to 80 ft. Maple family



**AMERICAN BEECH** is a stately and beautiful tree that prefers rich bottomland or upland soils. It tolerates shade and often grows in groves where all the individual stems have sprouted from the spreading roots of a single tree. Its distinctive smooth gray bark, long pointed buds, and strongly veined leaves are characteristic. The fruit, a triangular nut, is eaten by mammals and birds. The wood—reddish, close-grained, and hard—is used for furniture, clothes hangers, and veneer. Cooper Beech and Weeping Beech are European species which are often planted as ornamentals in parks.

Height: 60 to 100 ft. Beech family



**BLACKGUM**, Sourgum, Pepperridge, and Tupelo are names by which this handsome, medium-sized tree is known. Common along moist roadsides and in woods. Of several southeastern species of Tupelo, two grow in swamps. One has large red fruit, from which preserves are made. Blackgum leaves (2 to 6 in. long) are smooth and shiny, turning brilliant red in early fall. The dark blue fruit is eaten by birds and small mammals. Characteristic features of blackgum are stiff horizontal twigs and branches, and chambered pith. Sweetgum (p. 113) is not a relative, despite its name.

Height: 50 to 130 ft. Tupelo family

