

# SOME CLUES FOR TWIG DETECTIVES

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## TREES WITH OPPOSITE BRANCHING

**BUDS** 1. Smooth buds; crescent-shaped leaf scars with 3 bundle scars



SUGAR MAPLE

brown buds on brown twigs



NORWAY MAPLE

green and red buds; keeled scales



RED MAPLE  
red buds; no fetid odor

SILVER MAPLE  
red buds; fetid odor when crushed



BOX ELDER

buds whitish, downy; purple twigs with bloom that rubs off



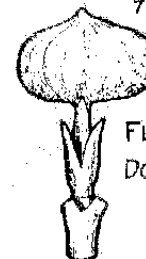
THE ASHES

bundle scars forming crescent



HORSE CHESTNUT

buds sticky



FLOWERING DOGWOOD



CATALPA

Often 3 buds at a node

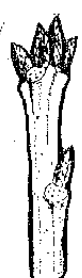
## TREES WITH ALTERNATE BRANCHING

**BUDS** 1. Single scale



WILLOW

hood-like scale



BLACK OAK GROUP

sharp-pointed buds



WHITE OAK GROUP

blunt buds

3. Large end bud with loose dark outer scales



SHAGBARK HICKORY

brownish twigs with light-colored lenticels

4. Flattened, yellowish buds



BITTERNUT HICKORY

granular, mustard-yellow buds



WITCH-HAZEL

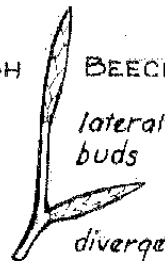
tawny, stalked, naked buds

5. Long, narrow buds



SHADBUSH

scales fringed with hairs

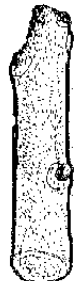


BEECH  
lateral buds  
divergent

**TWIGS** 1. Thick twig, thick pith



TREE OF HEAVEN



STAGHORN SUMAC

leaf scar almost encircles bud

2. Line encircling twig at each node



TULIP

"duck-bill" terminal bud



SYCAMORE

leaf scar encircles bud

3. Knob-like twigs



GINKGO

twigs peeling in silky fibres

4. Green twigs



SASSAFRAS

only one bundle scar

## CATKINS in winter



GRAY BIRCH

single catkin at end of twig



YELLOW BIRCH  
dark, peeling bark.

WHITE BIRCH  
white, peeling bark



SPECKLED ALDER

mahogany-colored catkins

## THORNS

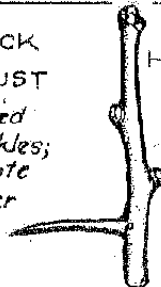


HONEY LOCUST  
minute winter buds; zig-zag twig



BLACK LOCUST

paired prickles; minute winter buds



HAWTHORN

round, red buds

## BUNDLE-SCAR U-shaped; chambered pith



BLACK WALNUT

dull gray, with blunt terminal bud



BUTTERNUT

yellow-brown with elongated terminal bud