

LANDSCAPE ORNAMENTALS

ALTERNATING LEAVES WITH SMOOTH /
NON-TOOTHED LEAF EDGES

THIS SECTION GROUPING (11 PLANTS) HAS LOTS OF DIFFERENT LOOKING LEAVES, EACH ARE SOMEWHAT UNIQUE AND COULD BE IN THEIR OWN CATEGORY

- ▶ OAK
- ▶ BEECH
- ▶ REDBUD
- ▶ CRAPEMYRTLE
- ▶ GINGKO
- ▶ WILLOW

- ▶ HOLLY
- ▶ PITTOSPORUM
- ▶ MAGNOLIA
- ▶ AZALEA/RHODODENDRON
- ▶ ENGLISH IVY

Is there a silly saying for this group?
Let me try to come up with something.

► PITTI RED ENGLISH CRAPE GIN AZA HOL WILL BE MAG OAK

OAK - LEAVES
CAN BE HIGHLY
VARIABLE IN
SHAPE, SO
USING SHAPE
ALONE WILL BE
CHALLENGING
AND OFTEN
LEAD TO MIS-
IDENTIFICATION



OAK –

REPRODUCTIVE
FORMS (Seeds =
Acorns) are also
variable in size and
shape. While these
have caps, the acorns
can separate from
the caps.



OAKs are easily identified by the twigs/
growing points, which often have 5 buds



OAK – leaves make a spiral going down the branch, with each leaf on the branch off-set by 72° from the previous leaf. When looking down the branch, you will see 5 rows of leaves.



BEECH - Leaves have sunken parallel veins, raised areas between veins look like waves coming upon the beach. Extended leaf veins sometimes can make edges not appear smooth.



BEECH - Colored leaf forms also exist



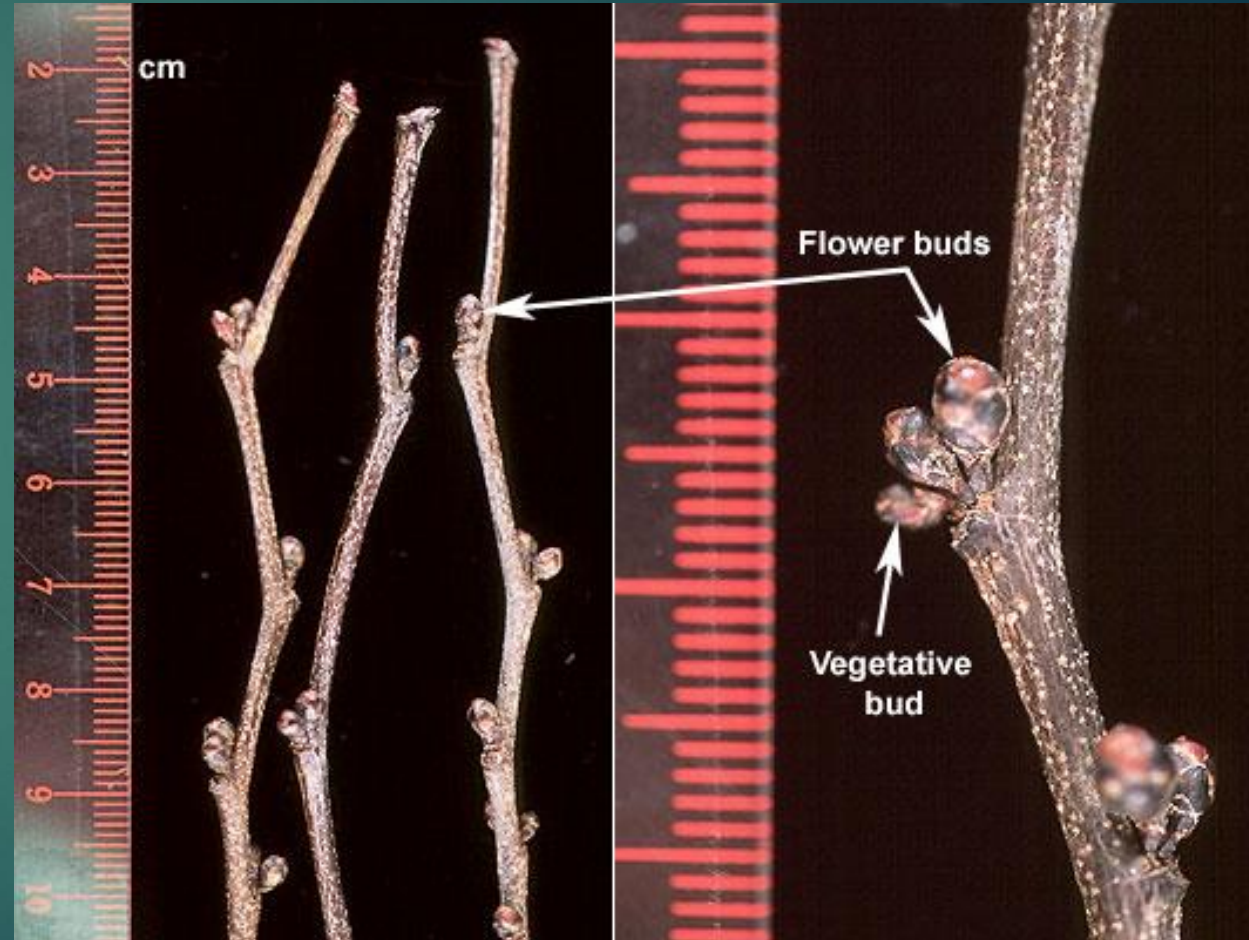
BEECH – Growing Point, Seed Pods and Seeds

Growing points are patterned, sharp looking –like they could puncture a beach ball



REDBUD – ZigZag Stems – No thorns

Heart Shaped leaves



REDBUD



CRAPEMYRTLE

- LEAVES CAN
APPEAR
OPPOSITE BUT
ARE OFFSET -
2 ON ONE
SIDE OF STEM
AND THEN 2
ON OTHER
SIDE OF STEM



CRAPEMYRTLE Leaves have a very **distinct venation from the mid-rib** (usually opposite, create almost a curved edge chevron, with veins curving near outer edge of leaf to join the next vein).



CRAPEMYRTLE –

ID help: Unique
twigs which
have raised
ridge on the
stem under the
leaf node



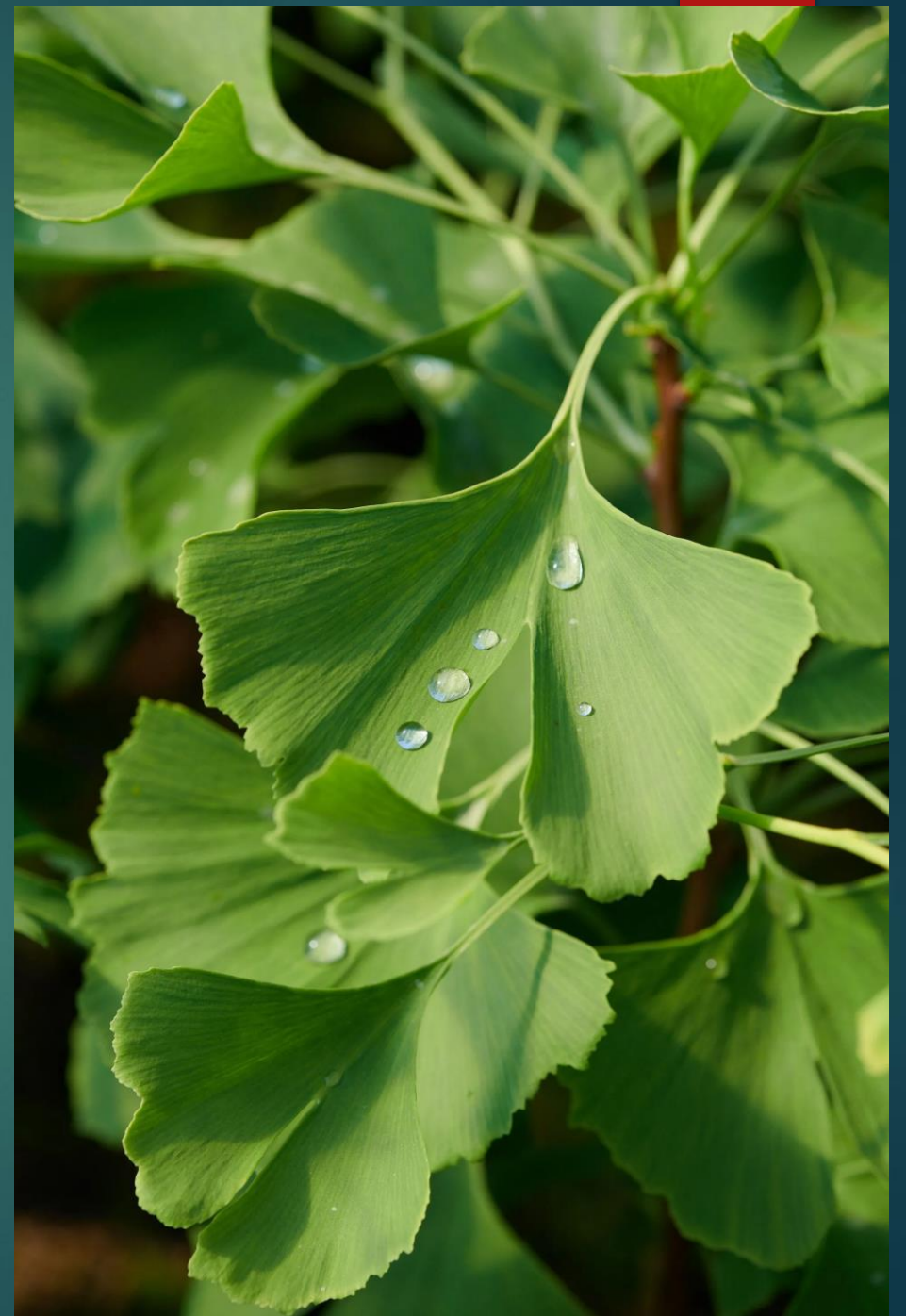
CRAPEMYRTLE - INDIVIDUAL FLOWERS HAVE 6 PETALS, ARRANGED IN A CIRCLE. INFLORESCENCE OF FLOWERS IS SHOW ON RIGHT. FLOWERS CAN BE WHITE, PINK, RED OR PURPLE



CRAPEMYRTLE SEED PODS HAVE
6 CHAMBERS AND ARE SPHERICAL.
SEEDS ARE NOT FLAT, RAISED ON
OUTER EDGE



GINKGO - FAN SHAPED UNIQUE LEAVES, ALL VEINS GO TO CENTER POINT



GINKGO – STEMMED FRUIT, OFTEN 2 STEMS
JOINED AT END (*FRUITS OFTEN HAVE ODOR, LEADS
TO PHRASE “GINKGO IS STINK-O”*)
SEED IS WHITE WITH RAISED EDGE



WILLOW – Multiple forms of willow leaves, some are finely toothed/notched, others with smooth leaf edges. All have fairly short petioles and mid-vein that is prominent on leaf underside.



WILLOW – Buds are usually elongated along the stem, rounded or slightly pointed tip end, often have shiny appearance

Easily Confused Orange County Willows

Bud Scales (leaves and stipules removed)



exigua
Narrow-leaved



gooddingii
Black



lasiandra
Pacific



laevigata
Red



lasiotepis
Arroyo



WILLOW Some willows have enlarged foliage where leaf petiole joins the stem/branch.



WILLOW - FLOWERING. Note the enlarged 'cap' at the base of the catkin



HOLLY – Leaves usually
appear waxy



HOLLY – often have spines on leaf edges.
Growing tip/buds are short, somewhat elongated,
with symmetrical patterned appearance



Holly - Berries are usually red, but can also be white, yellow or orange



PITTOSPORUM – ELONGATED TEAR SHAPED, OFTEN
WAXY LEAVES WITH PROMINENT MID-RIB THAT IS MUCH
LIGHTER COLORED THAN LEAF AND EXTENDS ABOUT 2/3 OF
WAY THROUGH LEAF



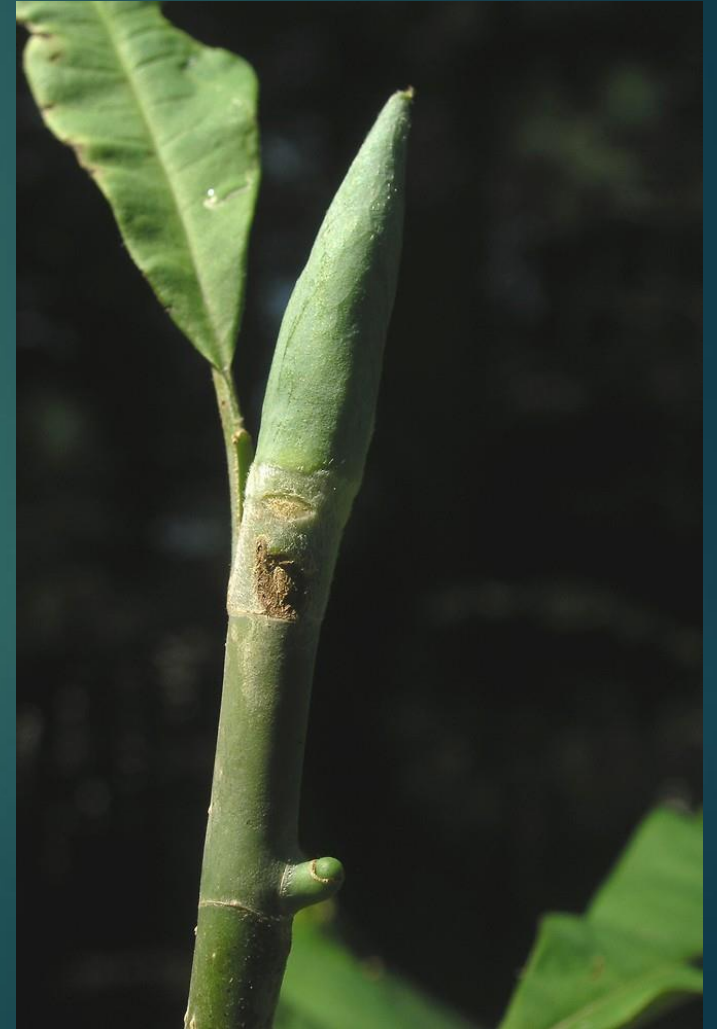
PITTOSPORUM – Flowers are white, yellow or red, with 5 small petals around a raised center



PITTOSPORUM – Seed pods usually have a rounded appearance and extended tip at bottom, 3 chambered. Seeds are often red, shaped like gravel, and can be sticky.



MAGNOLIA – Usually has large, somewhat elongated growing tip. Some forms easily identified by fuzzy looking tip. (*Maggie has fuzzy feet*)



MAGNOLIA - FLOWER FORMS. Note form on far left, seed pods later resemble this



MAGNOLIA LEAVES



MAGNOLIA – SEED POD AND SEEDS



AZALEA/RHODOENDRON – Leaf width is variable by species, some widest past the mid-way part of leaf, others near base. Leaves have short to moderate length petioles



AZALEA/RHODOENDRON – Leaves usually end in a small pointed tip/spine



AZALEA/RHODOENDRON - Growing tips appear similar to that of camellias, but are not waxy



AZALEA/RHODODENDRON

Growing tips



RHODODENDRON / AZALEA – Flowers have 5 petals, with long extensions. Lots of flower colors including blue/purple



AZALEA/RHODODENDRON – Seed pods should have 5, woody appearing sections with rounded tips. Seeds are very small



ENGLISH IVY – Palmate Leaves of juvenile plant form



ENGLISH IVY – FLOWERS (Don't think these are fair game for the contest by themselves but still are good to know). Note the shape of the mature leaves



ENGLISH IVY

