

LAB 8 – TRAM ROAD

Family	Genus	Species	Common Name	Order	Page
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Fabaceae	Gleditsia	aquatica	waterlocust	2	2
Ulmaceae	Planera	aquatica	planertree	3	3
Polygonaceae	Brunnichia	ovata	American buckwheat vine	4	3
Rutaceae	Poncirus	trifoliata	trifoliate orange	5	4
Rutaceae	Ptelea	trifoliata	common hoptree	6	4
Poaceae	Arundinaria	gigantea	giant cane	7	5
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black willow Salicaceae *Salix nigra*

Leaf: Alternate, simple, pinnately veined, lanceolate in shape, 3 to 6 inches long, with a finely serrate margin. Leaves are dark and shiny above, light green below.

Flower: Dioecious; flowers are tiny, green, borne on catkins, 1 to 3 inches long, early summer.

Fruit: Cone-shaped capsules that contain many small, cottony seeds, borne on catkins; capsules split at maturity, mid summer.

Twig: Slender, orange-brown in color, with a bitter aspirin taste; buds are small and appressed, covered by one bud scale, the terminal bud absent; stipules/scars are obvious.

Bark: Brown to gray-black, with thick, somewhat scaly ridges and deep furrows.

Form: A small to medium sized tree that can develop a massive trunk with a spreading, irregular crown. Black willows are often affected by crown gall, and witches brooms and trunk sprouting are common.



Notes:

waterlocust Fabaceae *Gleditsia aquatica*

Leaf: Alternate, pinnately or bipinnately compound with 14 to 20 oval to elliptical leaflets each 3/4 to 1 inch long, overall leaf 6 to 8 inches long.

Flower: Greenish white flowers displayed in 2 inch long racemes, appearing after the leaves.

Fruit: Flat, brown, almost round pods, 1 to 2 inches long, each containing 1 to 3 seeds.

Twig: Slender to moderate, zigzag, grayish to red-brown, conspicuous thorns, lateral buds sunken.

Bark: Smooth, grayish brown, often mottled, lenticels present, later splitting.

Form: Small to medium sized tree to 50 feet with a spreading, open crown.



Notes:

planertree Ulmaceae *Planera aquatica*

Leaf: Alternate, simple, ovate, serrated margin, 1 to 3 inches long, 1/2 to 1 inch wide, dark green above, paler below.

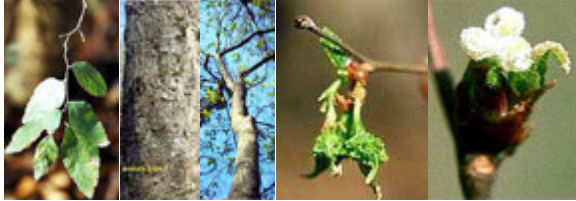
Flower: Very small, with curling, fuzzy stigmas, appearing with leaves in early spring.

Fruit: Small drupe but very distinctive, 1/2 inch long, covered with warty to long projections.

Twig: Slender, slightly zigzag, initially hairy but becoming glabrous, reddish to gray-brown, lateral buds short, reddish brown, blunt tipped.

Bark: Scaly, shreddy, and patchy, grayish brown on the surface, more reddish where patches exfoliate.

Form: Small tree to 35 feet, often vase-shaped in appearance; flared, flattened roots often develop in wet areas.



Notes:

American buckwheat vine Polygonaceae *Brunnichia ovata*

Leaf: Alternate, simple, deciduous with an acuminate tip and a truncate base giving it a deltoid to ovate shape.

Flower: Tubular, cream colored, and fragrant in hanging clusters; appearing in the summer.

Fruit: Elongated with 5 pointed lobes; surrounded by old flower parts.

Twig: Finely grooved.

Bark: Greenish to red-brown, finely grooved.

Form: A tendriled climbing vine.

*Not a VT Fact Sheet. Info from Allen et al's Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines of Louisiana ISBN: 0971862508



Notes:

trifoliate orange Rutaceae *Poncirus trifoliata*

Leaf: Alternate, compound, 3 leaflets, 1 to 2 inches long, may be finely wavy toothed, thickened, petiole winged, shiny dark green.

Flower: White, 5 petals, 1 to 2 inches across and very fragrant, appearing in spring.

Fruit: Yellowish orange, 1 to 1 1/2 inches across, fuzzy and very sour, numerous seeds, ripen in late summer.

Twig: Moderate, numerous stiff 1 inch long thorns, green and angled, buds are small.

Bark: Light gray-brown, smooth.

Form: A small tree or bush with numerous vicious thorns and green stems



Notes:

hoptree Rutaceae *Ptelea trifoliata*

Leaf: Alternate, palmately compound, 3 leaflets (each 2 to 4 inches long), sparsely serrated or entire, leaf 4 to 7 inches long, shiny dark green above, paler below.

Flower: Small (1/2 inch across), 4 to 5 narrow, greenish white petals, appear in terminal, branched clusters in spring, unpleasant odor.

Fruit: Round wafer-like papery samara, 1 inch across, light brown, maturing in summer.

Twig: Slender to moderate, brown with deep U-shaped leaf scar; light brown, fuzzy short buds.

Bark: Reddish brown to gray-brown, short horizontal lenticels, warty corky ridges, becoming slightly scaly, unpleasant odor and bitter taste.

Form: Typically a shrub but may become a small tree, reaches up to 20 feet with a broad crown.



Notes:

giant cane Poaceae *Arundinaria gigantea*

Leaf: Alternate, connected to stem by sheath, hairless above but hairy below.

Flower: Terminal panicles in late spring, pale to purple.

Fruit: Grain in late summer.

Twig: Tubular with swollen nodes, hollow internodes but solid at nodes.

Bark: Smooth and tan, bamboo-like.

Form: An erect perennial cane-sized grass forming dense stands.

*Not a VT Fact Sheet. Info from Miller and Miller's Forest Plants of the Southeast ISBN: 0967314003



Notes:

cedar elm Ulmaceae *Ulmus crassifolia*

Leaf: Alternate, simple, narrowly ovate to nearly lanceolate, 1 to 2 inches long, inequalateral base, coarsely toothed margins with somewhat rounded teeth, thick and slightly leathery, dark green and rough above with soft hairs beneath.

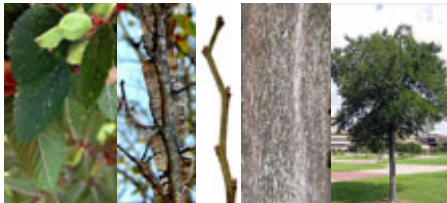
Flower: Monoecious; small, reddish, in clusters of 3 to 5, appearing in late summer and fall.

Fruit: Single-seeded flat football-shaped samara, notched at tip, 3/8-1/2 inch long, covered with soft white hair, ripens in the fall.

Twig: Slender, often with corky ridges, zig zaged, brownish; buds small ovate and pointed, reddish brown.

Bark: Light brown, furrowed into scaly ridges.

Form: Medium sized tree to 60 feet with rounded crown of drooping branches. *text and photos courtesy Oana Popescu and Carol Loopstra, Texas A&M



Notes: