

THE FICTIONAL AND INCOMPLETE KEY OF GEORGIA TREES

I. Evergreen (Needled - Leaf) Trees

A. Cedar Family

1. Atlantic White Cedar - needles in a flat plane
2. Deodar Cedar - looks more like a pine than a cedar
3. Eastern Red Cedar - needles spread out (red spreads)

B. Pine Family

1. Long Needled Pines - needles 10 inches or longer
 - a. Longleaf Pine - large terminal buds
2. Medium Needled Pines - needles 6 - 9 inches long
 - a. Loblolly Pine - 3 needles per cluster/sheath (sticky pine cone)
 - b. Slash Pine - 3, sometimes 2 needles to a cluster/sheath
3. Short Needled Pines - needles 1 - 5 inches long
 - a. Eastern White Pine - 5 needles to a cluster (5 letters in white)
 - b. Pitch Pine - 3 needles to a cluster (small loblolly)
 - c. Shortleaf Pine - 2 and 3 needles to a cluster (small slash)
 - d. Virginia Pine - 2 needles to a cluster ("V" for Virginia)

C. Other Needled Evergreens

1. Bald Cypress - feather like leaves (Bald Eagle)
2. Eastern Hemlock - needles $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1 inch long , two white strips on back

Deciduous Trees

A. Black Cherry Complex

1. Black Cherry - leaves 2-5 inches long and serrated
2. Black Gum - leaves 3-5 inches long and non-serrated (born on pedestals)
3. Common Persimmon - leaves 2-6 inches long, soft and non-serrated
4. Sourwood - leaves 3-7 inches long, double serrated, finely toothed

B. Maple Family

1. Boxelder - three leaflets to a leaf (looks like a boxer)
2. Red Maple - three lobed leaf, red petiole
3. Silver Maple - deeply five lobed leaf, silver gray on back side
4. Sugar Maple - 3-5 lobed leaf, green petiole

C. Nut Family

1. Hickory Family

- a. Mockernut Hickory - 7, sometimes 9 leaflets to a leaf
- b. Pignut Hickory - 5, sometimes 7 leaflets to a leaf, leaf and stem smooth (slick as a pig)
- c. Shagbark Hickory - 5, sometimes 7 leaflets to a leaf, leaf and stem smooth (Shaggy)

2. Other Nut Trees

- a. Black Walnut - leaves 12 to 24 inches long with 10-24 leaflets, no terminal leaflet.
- b. Butternut - leaves 15-30 inches long with 11 to 17 leaflets, has a terminal leaf (bud scar looks like a monkey face)
- c. Pecan - leaves 12-18 inches long with 9-15 curved leaflets

D. Oak Family

1. Red Oak Family - distinct spines or bristles on tips of lobes

- a. Black Oak - leaves 4-10 inches long with 5-7 lobes, leaf hairy below
- b. Northern Red Oak - leaves 5-9 inches long with 7-11 short pointed lobes, leaf lacks hairs
- c. Sawtooth Oak - leaves elliptical with serrated edges and bristle teeth.
- d. Scarlet Oak - leaves 3-6 inches long with 7-9 deeply divided lobes, petiole often reddish-green to red
- e. Southern Red Oak - Two leaf forms, three lobed leaf with rounded bottom (southern bell) or 5-7 lobed leaf.
- f. Turkey Oak - 3 or 5 deeply divided lobes, shaped like a turkey's foot.

2. Black/White Oak Family - spines or bristles absent or not noticeable

- Blackjack Oak - leaves 7-9 inches long, narrow at base, broad at outer end, hairy below (shaped like a billy club)
- Chestnut Oak - leaf shaped like a chestnut tree
- Live Oak - 2-5 inches long, elliptical, margin has a distinct lip
- Overcup Oak - 3-7 inches long with 5-9 sharp lobes, pointed at the base
- Water Oak - tear drop or spatula shaped leaf
- White Oak - 4-7 inches long, divided into finger-like, rounded lobes

Other Fun Trees

- American Beech - Zig-Zag stem and cigar buds
- Catalpa - large heart-shaped - elephant ear thyme leaf
- Eastern Cottonwood - deltoid shaped leaf, "heresy's kiss"
- Flowering Dogwood - leaf veins shaped like a minora
- Red Mulberry - cat's tongue
- Redbud - heart shaped leaf, "cupid tree"
- Sassafras - 3 leaf shapes, including a mitten and ghost
- Sweetgum - star shaped leaf
- Sycamore - leaf "dandruff"
- Yellow-poplar - cat face leaf