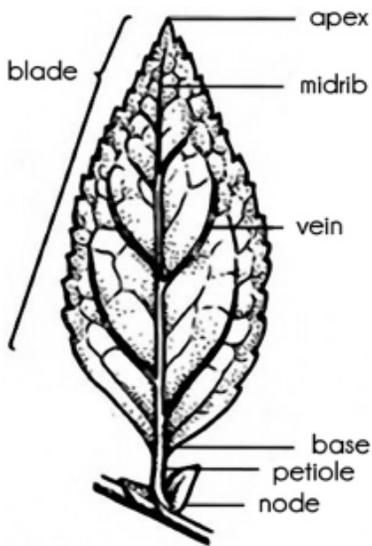


Leaves Found in the Scrub

Ways to Distinguish Different Types of Leaves



Let's begin by looking at the **parts of a leaf**:



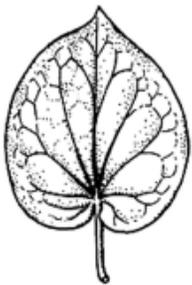
Most leaves have two main parts: the *blade* and the *petiole*, or leafstalk.

The **blade** is the broad, flat part of the leaf. Photosynthesis occurs in the blade, which has many green food-making cells. Leaf blades differ from one another in several ways: (1) the types of edges, (2) the patterns of the veins, and (3) the number of blades per leaf.

The **petiole** is the stem-like part of the leaf that joins the blade to the stem. Within a petiole are tiny tubes that connect with the veins in the blade that carry water into the leaves. In many trees and shrubs, the petioles bend in such a way so that the blades receive the most sunlight.

We can distinguish different types of leaves in numerous ways, two of these ways include looking at the **leaf shape** and **leaf edge**.

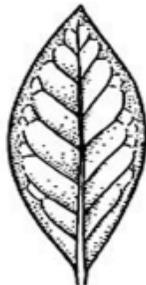
Leaf Shapes



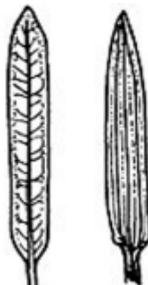
CORDATE



DELTOID



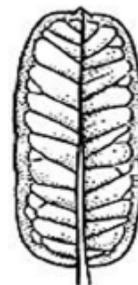
ELLIPTICAL



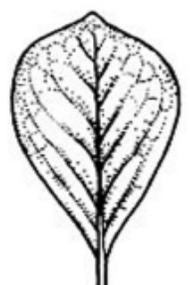
LINEAR



OVATE

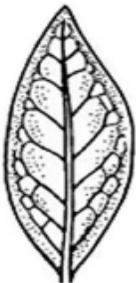


OBLONG



OBOVATE

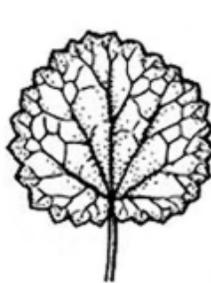
Leaf Edges



ENTIRE



SINUATE



DENTATE



SERRATE



LOBED

Sources:

"Parts of a Leaf." World Book Encyclopedia. Chicago, 1979. Print.

Swink, Floyd, and Wilhelm Gerould. "Leaf Diagram, Leaf Shapes and Leaf Edges."

Plants of the Chicago Region. 4th ed. Indianapolis: Indiana Academy of Science. Print.

Leaves Found in the Scrub

Identifying Leaves by Shapes and Edges



Use the charts and information to help you identify the leaf shapes and leaf edges of leaves found in the scrub.



1) Scrub Oak

- Blade is smooth around all edges
- Feather-veined (a vein arises pinnately from a single mid-vein and subdivides into veinlets)
- Petiole is round and stout

Leaf Shape: _____

Leaf Edge: _____



2) Sand Live Oak

- Blade varies from oval to elliptical
- Veins are impressed and feather-veined
- Petiole is short and stout

Leaf Shape: _____

Leaf Edge: _____



3) Chapman Oak

- Blade is broadest near the middle
- Feather-veined
- Petiole is slender and short

Leaf Shape: _____

Leaf Edge: _____



4) Myrtle Oak

- Blade is wide and broadest above or near the middle
- Prominent network of veins
- Petiole is slender and short

Leaf Shape: _____

Leaf Edge: _____



5) Scrub Hickory

- Blade is coarsely serrated and broadest at the crown
- Very prominent middle vein that sprouts other veins
- Petiole is slender

Leaf Shape: _____

Leaf Edge: _____



6) Red Bay

- Blade is lance-shaped, broadest near the middle and pointed at the tip
- One prominent middle vein that sprouts a network of other veins
- Petiole is slender

Leaf Shape: _____

Leaf Edge: _____



7) Silk Bay

- Blade is broadest at the middle with a pointed tip
- Prominent single middle vein
- Petiole is slender

Leaf Shape: _____

Leaf Edge: _____



8) American Holly

- Blade is coarsely-toothed, with the teeth ending in sharp spines
- Prominent middle vein
- Petiole is slender and round

Leaf Shape: _____

Leaf Edge: _____