

## ULMACEAE – ELM FAMILY

**Plant:** woody vines, shrubs and trees

**Stem:**

**Root:**

**Leaves:** evergreen or deciduous; simple, alternate, often base is asymmetrical, pinnate or palmate veins (3 main veins); paired stipules often falling early

**Flowers:** perfect or monoecious; very small, solitary or in clusters; 2-9+ but mostly 4-8 sepals, no petals; stamens equal sepals, rarely greater; ovary superior, 2-3 carpels, 1-2 styles, 1 stigma

**Fruit:** drupe, nut or winged capsule (samara)

**Other:** widespread; Dicotyledons Group

**Genera:** 15+ genera; locally *Celtis* (hackberry, sugarberry), *Planera* (planer-tree), *Ulmus* (elm)

## ULMACEAE – ELM FAMILY

Sugarberry [Southern Hackberry]; *Celtis laevigata* Willd.

[Common, Northern] Hackberry; *Celtis occidentalis* L.

Dwarf Hackberry; *Celtis tenuifolia* Nutt.

Winged Elm; *Ulmus alata* Michx.

American [White] Elm; *Ulmus americana* L.

Siberian Elm; *Ulmus pumila* L. (Introduced)

Slippery Elm; *Ulmus rubra* Muhl.

# Sugarberry [Southern Hackberry]

*Celtis laevigata* Willd. var. *laevigata*

Ulmaceae (Elm Family)

Fort Pulaski National Monument, Georgia

Notes: medium-sized tree; flowers small; leaves alternate, lanceolate (2x+ as long as wide), assymetric, very long-pointed, entire or sparsely toothed; trunk usually with rounded 'warts' on trunk; twigs shiny and slender; fruit a small berry, reddish-orange to black; a wet-area tree; spring

[V Max Brown, 2006]





# [Common, Northern] Hackberry

*Celtis occidentalis* L.

Ulmaceae (Elm Family)

Maumee River Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: tree; flowers small in clusters; leaves alternate, simple, base asymmetrical, sharply serrate except near base, long-pointed, 3 veins from base, hairy below, rough above; bark usually with irregular "corky" ridges (often distinctive); twigs slender; winter buds with 4-5 bud scales, usually hairy; fruit a purplish berry; quite variable; spring

[V Max Brown, 2004]



Seeds & Berries





# Dwarf Hackberry

*Celtis tenuifolia* Nutt.

Ulmaceae (Elm Family)

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, Greene

County, Missouri

**Notes:** shrub to small tree; flowers small in clusters; leaves alternate, simple, base somewhat asymmetrical, margin mostly without teeth (entire), long-pointed, 3 veins from base, usually hairy below, rough above; bark usually with irregular "corky" ridges; twigs slender and hairy early; fruit a purplish berry; spring

[V Max Brown, 2011]





# Winged Elm

*Ulmus alata* Michx.

Ulmaceae (Elm Family)

Sam A. Baker State Park, Wayne County, Missouri

Notes: shrubs and small trees; flowers small in clusters; leaves small, alternate with a short hairy petiole, usually double-toothed; bark with irregular groves; "corky" wings even down to small twigs; winter buds sharp pointed; fruit small and winged; late winter to spring

[V Max Brown, 2006]





# American [White] Elm

*Ulmus americana* L.

Ulmaceae (Elm Family)

Maumee River Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: tree; flowers small in clusters; leaves alternate, widest toward middle, sharply double-toothed, base asymmetrical, shiny and green above, paler and hairy or not below, short petiole; bark groovy and flaky; twigs slender, hairy or not; winter buds mostly glabrous; fruit a samara, deeply notched, cilia along edges; late winter to spring

[V Max Brown, 2005]





# Siberian Elm

*Ulmus pumila* L. (Introduced)

Ulmaceae (Elm Family)

University of Toledo Campus, Lucas County,  
Ohio

Notes: tree; flowers small in clusters; leaves small,  
alternate, single-toothed, tapering to tip, base mostly  
symmetrical, upper surface shiny green, lower paler, some  
hairs on veins; bark with grooves and ridges; twigs  
slender, hairy early; buds hairy especially on valves; fruit a  
samara, usually notched, not hairy; late winter to spring

[V Max Brown, 2006]





# Slippery Elm

*Ulmus rubra* Muhl.

Ulmaceae (Elm Family)

University of Toledo Campus, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: tree; flowers small in clusters; leaves alternate, double-toothed, larger leaves with tapering narrow tip, upper surface very rough, lower hairy; bark with shallow grooves and ridges; twigs hairy or not, stout, rough; buds with rusty-red pubescence; fruit a samara, not or little notched; late winter to spring

[V Max Brown, 2006]

