



In the shade

ISA
TEXAS TREE
CONFERENCE

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Bajo la Sombra

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE ISA TEXAS CHAPTER

Vol. 36, No. 4

November, 2012



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Mauget

PRESIDENT'S LETTER by Susan Henson

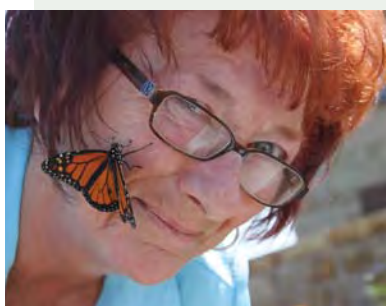


This is my first President's Letter and I must start by saying thank you to so many people but most of all to Keith who has given countless hours and served on the board for years in many capacities. He was a fearless leader and helped lead us down this path of change. Change we have! Your Board of Directors is full of fresh new faces that are willing and ready to learn how to steer this organization into further growth and development.

Not only do we have new board members but in addition we have a new CEU liaison for ISA. Her name is Misti Beirne and she is ready, willing and able to assist with testing and receiving our CEUs in a timely yet fully sanctioned process. She comes to us from Hawaii where she served as a proctor for ISA examinations and is fully aware of the parameters of this very important position. We hold several exams per year and our membership keeps growing as do our needs for more CEUs. With the addition of new licensing categories come new requirements for more or additional CEUs. In the past Pat Wentworth handled this position with all the care and attention that it deserved. I do not believe that he missed a test out of 208 given in 32 years of service! Quite a record and we know he will be of great assistance helping Misti get started. Thanks, Pat!

We have another change to your ISAT Board of Directors! With tears in our eyes and hope in our heart we say goodbye to Mike Walterscheidt and welcome to John Giedraitis as our new Executive Director! No words could ever say thank you enough to Mike and his lovely wife for all they have done for this organization. I take this time to say thank you from all of our membership to him for his decades of service. We welcome John and know that he will always have this organization's best interest in heart.

We look forward to many new programs this year in addition to the change in personnel. Please watch your future newsletters and website for updates and useful information. If we can be of service let us know! Please let us know how we can help or what programs you would like to see implemented. Our programs and knowledge keep expanding along with our membership, and a well-informed arborist is a better arborist!



New ISAT president Susan Henson and friend.

Miguel Pastenes wins 2nd in belayed speed climb

Texas' own 2012 Texas Tree Climbing Champion Miguel M. Pastenes took second in the Belayed Speed Climb at the International Tree Climbing Championship in Portland in August.



Congrats to Miguel and all the folks at Arborological Services, Inc. and ISA Texas who supported his efforts!

Tree workers class Nov. 16 in English and Spanish

Guy Leblanc, this year's Texas Arborist of the Year, will be leading his Tree School for Tree Workers November 16 in Conroe. The class will be held from 9 am to 3 pm at TFS Jones State Forest, 1328 FM 1488.

A great review or introduction to basic tree care, this is a stand-alone one-day workshop that combines classroom and hands-on learning. It will be conducted in English and Spanish. Topics will include basic job site safety, climbing and proper pruning, aerial and ground chainsaw safety, and chainsaw maintenance.

Class size is limited to 50. Fee: \$75. For more information and to register on line, go to shop.isatexas.com/.

Volunteer with Texas ReLeaf & help replant!

Help the Texas A&M Forest Service, Anheuser-Busch, Keep Montgomery County Beautiful and others to distribute 10-gallon trees to eligible families in the Riley Road and Dyer Mills wildfire burn scar. Sign up today to help distribute the trees on Dec. 8, 2012 or March 3, 2013.

Texas ReLeaf is a beautification and disaster recovery program designed to plant at least 1,000 trees in select Southeast Texas communities that still are recovering from last year's destructive wildfire season. Details at kmbctexas.org/reLEAF.

Fall 2012 edition of the *National Register of Big Trees* Is now online



American Forests has recently published the fall 2012 edition of the National Register of Big Trees. Now you can search for your favorite national champion from Texas – or any of those other minor states – at <http://www.americanforests.org/bigtrees/bigtrees-search/>.

With the addition of a white mulberry (*Morus alba*) tree in Knox County and a pear hawthorn (*Crataegus calpodendron*) in Red River County, Texas again has 86 national champs or co-champs within its borders. This number accounts for the loss of the national champion Rio Grande cottonwood (*Populus deltoides* ssp. *wislizeni*) and common buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) to trees in other states.

Check out our own Texas Big Tree Registry (txforestservation.tamu.edu/main/article.aspx?id=1336) and head out during the crisp autumn weather to find the next Texas champion!
– Pete Smith



Micah Pace and Texas chinkapin oak.



Oscar Mestas and Texas Italian stone pine.

Bruce Kreitler named True Professional of Arboriculture

Bruce Kreitler, a certified master arborist and a tree care specialist with Broken Willow Tree Service in Abilene, Texas, has been named a “True Professional of Arboriculture” by the ISA. Bruce is also a newly elected member of the ISA-Texas board of directors.



The True Professional recognition program honors arborists and tree care professionals for their positive impact on the industry in and around their communities. ISA President Colin Bashford paid tribute to Kreitler at a ceremony at the ISA Annual Conference and Trade Show in August.

“Bruce makes it a goal to educate people about the value of the urban forest where they live,” says Bashford. “Through his numerous news articles, speaking engagements and his weekly radio show, Bruce has enhanced the public’s appreciation for trees by teaching them how trees and people can co-exist in a healthy, beneficial way.”

One of Kreitler’s projects is working with the Buffalo Gap Tree Board in an area of Texas with an historic live oak forest. Kreitler is working with the other members of the tree board to develop plans and policies for the replenishment of declining tree numbers while additionally increasing the species diversity of the area.

“It doesn’t do any good to know everything I can about trees or hire a number of people to work for me, if I don’t believe in public outreach,” says Kreitler. “The True Professional is the person putting himself out there, working for the public and getting the best information to them.”

Kreitler is one of five members in the 2012 class of True Professionals. ISA launched the program in 2009 to increase public understanding of arboriculture.

ArborMaster training returns

ArborMaster returns to Texas this month! Please plan to join us for hands-on in the field training in San Antonio November 27 through December 1:

- L1 Precision Tree Felling, Chainsaw Handling and Safety, November 27–28, 2012
- L1 Tree Climbing Methods, Work Positioning and Best Practice, November 29–December 1, 2012

For more information or to register, contact ArborMaster at 860-429-5028 or visit ArborMaster.com.



Renew online and save \$5

While your membership does not expire until December 31, early renewal has several benefits:

1. Save \$5 off your 2013 membership. Renew online and enter the special discount code 2013Rollback to save \$5. This offer expires on December 31, 2012 and is only valid on memberships purchased online.
2. Guarantee yourself uninterrupted access to all of ISA member benefits, including *Arborist News* magazine and *Arboriculture and Urban Forestry* journal, as well as discounts on workshops, conferences, products, apparel and recertification fees.
3. Save paper. If you renew online now, we will not need to send you a paper invoice. Help us help the environment.

New for 2013: if you are a student, ISA membership is free if you join the Texas Chapter!

Renew online at isa-arbor.com/myAccount/login.aspx.

New ANSI Z133 safety standards

The 2012 revision of the ANSI Z133 Safety Standard provides the most current criteria in the United States for arborists and other workers engaged in arboricultural operations. The safety requirements in this standard address the following categories:

- General safety
- Electrical hazard
- Use of vehicles and mobile equipment
- Portable power hand tools
- Hand tools and ladders
- Work procedures

This publication provides an essential guide for federal, state, and municipal authorities in drafting regulations.

See isa-arbor.com/store/product.aspx?ProductID=122&CID=56.



Richard W. Harris

The arboriculture industry lost another great pioneer and leader recently. Dr. Richard W. Harris passed away in September at the age of 92. For more information please visit the memorial page provided by the Western ISA chapter at richardwharris.wordpress.com.

New Texas ISA members

from October 2012 *Arborist News*

Amy Griffith, Westlake
Antonio Salas, Fort Worth
Beth Corbin, Hooks
Brian S. Jeffries, Frisco
Christopher Ashness, Arlington
Christopher Wayne Dempsey, Nacogdoches
Daniel D. Valadez Sr., San Antonio
Denny Schey, Round Rock
Duane Alden Walsh, Leander
Eliseo Rios, San Antonio
Francisco Moreno, Houston
Jason Jesko, Sugar Land
Jonathan Fair, Huntsville
Kathryn S. Birck, Johnson City
Michael R. Farnham, Aledo
Neil F. Gandy, Austin
Paula Perez, Forney
Richard E. Day, Greenville
Rick Sanderson, Arlington
Ricky Vinson, Lancaster
Runy K. Nelson, Dallas
Thomas W. Bussell, Live Oak
Will Brents, Round Rock

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Editor: Oscar S. Mestas
Regional Urban Forester, Texas Forest Service
omestas@tfs.tamu.edu 915-834-5610

Associate Editor: Jeannette Ivy
jkivy@austin.rr.com 512-292-4402

Advertising Representative:
Brian Pancoast
brian@thepancoastconcern.com 585-924-4570

Keep Alpine Beautiful native tree planting

On a weekend in September more than 30 hardy folks braved mud and the threat of more rain to plant 21 trees as part of the native plant demonstration landscape being installed at the Alpine Public Library.

Keep Alpine Beautiful was one of three drought-affected Texas communities awarded a grant from Lowe's, Keep Texas Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful to create a landscape using regionally native plants to demonstrate their

water and energy efficiency. The Alpine Public Library was selected because of its high visibility in the community and the fact that as a new building it had not been landscaped yet.

The trees were purchased by individuals and groups in the community and donated to the project. Sixty-two hours of labor were donated by Mary Malgrem; Mary Beth and Hugh Garrett; Jackie and Roger Siglin; Lee Smith; Jim Robertson; Christine Cosby; Albert Bork; Richard and Jean Zimmer; James Wightman; Karen Nakakihara; Chris Ruggia; Michael Stangl; Gerri and Breg Davis; Don, Addison and Emory Corrick; Pollyanne Melton; Maurine Pendleton; Susan and Tom Curry; Mike and Martha Latta; John Waters; Dana Jones; Charles Stair; Tom Mangrem; and Kay Wilde. Volunteers were rewarded with cookies baked by Kathy Bork.

Many thanks to the tree buyers and planters!! More work will still be needed, including mulching and watering, weeding, and planting of additional trees. Anyone wanting to volunteer for any of these projects should call Keep Alpine Beautiful coordinator Martha Latta at 432-294-3183.



UPCOMING NATIONAL MEETINGS

48th Annual
International SMA Conference and Trade Show
November 12–13, 2012
Sacramento, CA
<http://www.arborday.org/shopping/pcf/2012/sma.cfm>

Utility Arborist Association
Meeting and Training
November 13, 2012
Sacramento, CA
<http://www.arborday.org/shopping/pcf/2012/uaa.cfm>

Partners in Community Forestry
National Conference
November 14–15, 2012
Sacramento, CA
<http://www.arborday.org/shopping/pcf/2012/>

American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA)
Annual Conference
November 28–December 1, 2012
San Diego, CA
<http://www.asca-consultants.org/>





EDITOR'S NOTE by Oscar Mestas

While sitting in my house this late October weekend, I heard a strange sound; I suddenly realized it was a flock of cranes flying overhead (most likely on their way to Bosque Del Apache wildlife preserve near Socorro, NM). I also received my electric bill and the total amount due was reduced by a third. These are just some of the indicators that fall is here. I don't have to run my A/C anymore. I get to enjoy having the windows open and let the cool breeze flow through. I don't have to water as often and best of all, I'm out in my yard planting new trees and shrubs. This is the time of year that I like to promote as the best time to plant trees.

We almost always think of spring for planting trees as do our clients. Why? Because for many years the nursery industry has pushed spring as planting season. For us out here in Far West Texas spring is probably the worst time to plant trees. Our daytime temps may already be in the mid 80s to low 90s and it is the driest time of the year for us. March is the middle of the windy season where 50 mph winds are commonplace from February through the end of April. So for me fall is for planting.

Fall-planted trees need less water to establish. We usually have more moisture in the soil because September is usually our wettest month. The trees planted in fall continue to grow roots throughout the winter, so come spring they are anchored and ready for the windy season.

So let's get the word out and see if we can reverse the spring planting trend and get more folks to plant this and every fall season. As a closing item, I want to thank all of you that attended and supported this year's Texas Tree Conference. It was good to see old and new faces. As always if you have comments or suggestions for the newsletter send them to me at omestas@tfs.tamu.edu.

New ISA-Texas officers and board of directors

Back row: Keith Brown, Past President; Ed Dolphin; John Warner; Michael Nentwich; Lee Evans; Xavier Leal; Misti Beirne; Greg David.

Front row: Michael Sultan, President-Elect; Oscar Mestas, Editor; Vincent Debrock; Markus Smith, Vice President; Emily King; Susan Henson, president.



2012 Conference wrap-up

by Susan Henson

This year's Texas Tree Conference seemed to meet or exceed most everyone's expectations. The Academy held before the conference was so informative and timely. With its new format of stations outside, it was a little warm but well worth the endeavor. Where else would you be introduced to the latest research in such a "hands on" environment? Usually, 40 percent of what you are introduced to is gone 30 minutes after you leave the room, and 90 percent has left your memory by the end of the week. You can believe me when I say "it will take a lifetime to forget" what I was exposed to during the workshops. I hope to reinforce this knowledge retention even more because I can not wait to apply these new techniques in the field. I too have been reinvigorated to go forth and continue to push the boundaries of established practices and base my decisions on fact-based research.

Record numbers attended the Academy (198), Conference (298) and The Tree School (61), for a total of 482. Learning seemed to be enhanced by the information-charged atmosphere, with fantastic vendors and sponsors, and people exchanging ideas and research. Knowledge was shared and people expanded their horizons through networking and education. Our speakers included Dr. Ed Gilman from the University of Florida, Dr. Bryant Scharenbroch of the Morton

Arboretum, and Anne Beard from PNM/NMP. They covered topics from pruning to fire response.

Several other speakers shared their expertise on various subjects such as Dr. Appel, Skip Kincaid, Dr. Hans Williams, Dr. Todd Watson, Paul Reis, Nick Kuhn, Gerard Passola, Dr. Joseph White, Jim Houser, Dr. Charles Hart, Eric Dumbaugh, Melinda Adams, Mikey Merritt, Melanie Goetz, Gene Gehring, Justice Jones, Michael Sultan and Bruce Moore, Douglas Foster and Tom Foster. What a roster of gifted speakers from across the spectrum of tree care! From pruning to marketing and everything in between, it was all covered at this conference in a usable format that all could understand. I feel this was one of our most successful conferences because knowledge was exchanged but more than that, lasting relationships were formed.

Speaking of sponsors, this conference could not have happened without the help of our special sponsors this year: Bartlett Tree Experts, Davey, Texas A&M Forest Service, Trees Inc., Vermeer Equipment of Texas, Poston/Bandit, Wright Tree Service and the 25 vendors who set up the wonderful show with all the wares of the tree industry on site. Everything from chipper trucks to chain saws – what a fantastic show with something for everyone! Look forward to seeing you next year in Waco October 2–4, 2013.



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Photo courtesy Forestryimages.org, Joseph O'Brian, USDA



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Photo courtesy Creative Commons



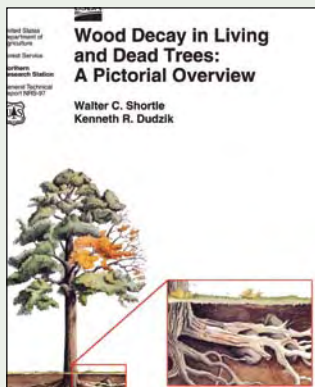
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A new photographic resource on wood decay and discoloration

By documenting the patterns of wood discoloration and decay observed through dissecting thousands of trees, the authors use photographs and illustrations to provide a better understanding of decay in living and dead trees. The authors, Walter Shortle and Kenneth Dudzik, are a senior research plant pathologist and forester, respectively, with the U.S. Forest Service's Northern Research Station in Durham, NH.



With the recent release of revised tree risk assessment BMPs and the move to establish an ISA Tree Risk Assessor qualification, the importance of being able to determine the structural health and integrity of a tree is becoming

increasingly more visible. In urban environments where we find a dynamic interface between trees and people, as well as a variety of other temporary and fixed targets, understanding decay in living trees is quite possibly the most important skill possessed by an urban forester.

Visit www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/gtr/gtr_nrs97.pdf to view or download the publication.

2012 ISA Conference proceedings CD

Couldn't make it to Portland? Find out what you missed at the 88th Annual International Conference and Trade Show in a CD that includes a complete listing of the events. The CD provides links within the conference schedule to view speaker abstracts of the presentations and other supplementary educational materials submitted by presenters, including papers, PowerPoint presentations, and extended abstracts. Listeners of our Science of Arboriculture podcasts are invited to go deeper into the research of featured experts with this invaluable resource.

Member price is \$29.95. Order from isa-arbor.com/store/product.aspx?ProductID=393.

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859-252-2529

Guy LeBlanc

2012 ARBORIST OF THE YEAR

GUY LEBLANC is a second-generation arborist who began working in the tree care industry for his father in 1975 in Boston, MA.



In 1983 he established Arbor Vitae Tree Care in Austin, which he still personally operates today. His clients have included the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center and the Umlauf

Sculpture Museum and Gardens, both in Austin; the former Olu Pua Botanical Gardens in Hawaii; and a historic palace in the Czech Republic.

Other notable properties where he has worked include the LBJ Ranch and the LBJ Boyhood Home in Central Texas, and Audubon Park in New Orleans. In 1990 he was one of the arborists hired to provide treatment to the city of Austin's Treaty Oak after its poisoning. He has provided care for the tree on a volunteer basis several times since.

From 1990 through 1997 he served on the city's Urban Forestry Board, including two years as chair. His main accomplishment during this time was co-authoring the Austin Public Tree Care Ordinance. In 2009 he played a significant role in helping to save 25 large trees slated for removal at Barton Springs Pool, the "jewel of Austin." He and fellow arborists Pat Brewer and Don Gardner provided consultations that led to a more thorough inspection of some

of the trees and a reversal of the city's decision.

Over the last 20 years Guy has been extensively involved with the ISA and ISAT, primarily as a volunteer for tree climbing competitions. He has served as a head judge for both the Texas Tree Climbing Championship and the International Tree Climbing Championship.

He's also a competitive climber. He won the 1999 Texas tree climbing championship and competed at the International championship in 1998 and 1999. Although he has "retired" from competition multiple times over the last ten years, he comes back every now and then to keep the young guys on their toes, as he did last year with his second place finish in Texas.



In addition to writing the "Climbing Lines" feature for *In the Shade*, Guy has also written numerous articles published in the *ISA Journal of Arboriculture*, the *Austin American-Statesman* and elsewhere.

As a speaker and instructor, Guy has always been a strong advocate for proper tree care techniques. He has taught classes for the city of Round Rock, Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas A&M University, the Houston Area Urban Forestry Council, the ISA, and other schools and organizations.

Guy has been married to Donna for 15 years, has two stepchildren, Zach and Jackie, and spends what little free time he has entertaining his granddaughter Jayden.

City of Arlington

2012 GOLD LEAF AWARD FOR ARBOR DAY ACTIVITIES: ECOFEST ARLINGTON

Ecofest Arlington combines fun with teaching about trees and sustainability. It has grown from a crowd of 2,000 three years ago to over 10,000 people in 2011. The 4th annual Ecofest in September, 2012, was another great success.

Ecofest Arlington gives away free native trees (1500 of them this year) and information on where and how to plant them, plus classes on natural resource conservation and energy waste. It's a free, family-oriented event that helps build a sense of community, stimulates environmental awareness and promotes trees and stewardship.

Heather Dowell accepted the award on behalf of the City of Arlington.



City of San Antonio

2012 ARBORICULTURAL PROJECT OF THE YEAR: GREEN SHADE PROJECT

A block grant to San Antonio from the U.S. Department of Energy included \$492,000 to plant trees for energy savings. The City of San Antonio Office of Environmental Policy (OEP) worked with the San Antonio Parks & Recreation Department (SAPAR), the Texas A&M Forest Service, the

Alamo Forest Partnership (AFP), and CPS Energy to develop a community tree planting program to promote energy savings and sustainability.

The program they came up with is called the The Green Shade Project. It

was designed to save up to 2.3M kWh of energy annually by providing tree-planting rebates to property owners. The City, CPS Energy, and local retailers were all involved.

All CPS Energy customers were able to qualify for a \$50 rebate per tree per property (up to 3 per property) by planting approved shade trees on the east, south, and/or west sides of air-conditioned structures. They also agreed to care for the trees

The program was very successful. A total of 5,735 new trees were planted, \$276,750 in rebates were issued, and over 140 local businesses benefitted from the sale of trees. At maturity, these trees are projected to save over \$170,000 in annual utility costs (at current rates), reduce usage over 1.75 million kWh per year, and prevent over 1,300 tons of CO2 emissions.

Alamo Forest Partnership conducted a field study to determine the results of the program. The study found a 93% survival rate after the first growing season. The study also found that 97% of the trees were planted in the proper locations to maximize shading and cooling of air conditioned structures. The program was so successful, SAPAR will be partnering with CPS Energy again next season

The award was accepted by Michael Nentwich, City Forester; Mark Bird, City Arborist; and Jenna Anguiano, Manager over Environmental Planning, Compliance & Sustainability with CPS Energy.

Harris Co. MUD 230

2012 GOLD LEAF AWARD FOR LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION: MANDOLIN GARDENS PARK

Mandolin Gardens Park, constructed between October 2010 and August 2011, was originally built as an 11-acre detention basin for the Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 230. Prior to re-development, the basins were, according to the District Board President Gary Simpson, "weed infested eyesores about which the neighbors complained."

Today Mandolin Gardens Park is an oasis for people and wildlife in the middle of the community. It's a dual-use area, retaining its function as a detention basin during storms, but also providing an outstanding park. It can be inundated for a day to a week, then quickly return to traditional park use. More than 2,000 residences are within walking distance of the park.

A chemical free ecosystem has been attained through bio-augmentation of the soils and use of native and naturalized plants for erosion control, seasonal color, wildlife food and habitat. More than 200 trees were added to the formerly treeless basin; other new features include two miles of fully accessible trails, plazas, and overlooks.

The park was designed by Talley Landscape Architects, Inc. in collaboration with Dannenbaum Engineering Corporation. The award was accepted by Kathryn Wright of Harris County MUD 230 and Merrie Talley of Talley Landscape Architects.



Mike Walterscheidt

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT



After serving as executive director of ISA-Texas since 1997, Mike Walterscheidt is retiring at the end of the year. He has made substantial contributions to ISA, ISA-Texas, Texas A&M University, and the field of arboriculture. The September, 2012 issue of *In the Shade* highlighted Mike's accomplishments and

also included notes of appreciation from a number of his colleagues and former students. You can download that issue at isatexas.com/Members/Newsletter.htm.



At the 2012 Texas Tree Conference in Waco . . .

Wednesday night social at Cameron Park clubhouse.



Incoming president Susan Henson thanks outgoing president Keith Brown.



Guy LeBlanc demonstrates the proper use of the chainsaw.



Tree assessment with Skip Kincaid.



The arcing demo shows what can happen to a tree worker who is not wearing a proper hard hat.

[more photos](#) ►

... September, 2012



Dr. Ed Gilman shares his expertise on pruning.

New planting techniques: Dr. Todd Watson shows how to correct for girdling roots.



◀ more photos

Additional photos from the 2012 Texas Tree Conference can be found at <https://plus.google.com/photos/116982053780344052654/albums/5796939987534314401?banner=pwa>

What's the Big **I**Idea?



Can you identify this native Texas species?

If you know this tree, correctly identify it on our facebook page. If you don't know it, check the page for the answer in a few days!

Hint: Yet another thing special 'bout a whole other country.



How to enter: Log onto our facebook page and type in both the common and scientific name. We will check the page daily until the tree has been correctly identified, confirming the correct answer.

Last month's winner

Ta da! Priscilla Files of Galveston wins again, for the second time in a row. Priscilla correctly identified the September Big Idea tree as Lacey oak, *Quercus laceyi*.



ISA Hispanic Committee update 2012

By Mark Duff

The ISA Hispanic Committee met in Portland, OR on August 13 during the ISA 88th Annual Conference and Trade Show. The following members were present: Carlos Llanos (Chair – Colombia), Salvador Alemany (Texas), Carlos Anaya (Argentina), Sigfredo Faría (Puerto Rico), Tomás Martínez-Trinidad (Mexico), Laura Mendiburu (Spain-via Skype), Daniel Rivas (Mexico City via Skype), Salvador Cañis (Palma de Mayorca, Spain), Mark Duff (Texas), Sofía del Karma Paredes Chávez (Ecuador via Skype), Luana Vargas (ISA liason), and de Gourét Litchfield (ISA – BoD liason).

Three principal topics were taken up by the group: forming a Hispanic chapter, use of a \$5,000 grant from the USDA Forest Service, and creating a Spanish track at the ISA annual conference in Orlando 2015 and/or Dallas 2016.

Salvador Alemany is leading the inquiry into the feasibility of creating a Hispanic chapter. Several scenarios will be investigated, including forming a north Mexico/Texas Hispanic chapter, forming a Hispanic chapter outside the United States (i.e. Puerto Rico or other host country), or forming an Hispanic associate organization. The justification for creating a Hispanic chapter is to be able to include members from Latin American countries that have too few members (less than 50) to qualify as a chapter on their own.

Several ideas were discussed as to the use of grant funds. The ISAHispana.com website is in need of a face lift. The navigation needs to be improved, information and links updated, and member biographies and photos uploaded. The popular English-Spanish/ Spanish-English Dictionary of Arboriculture Terms is down to 170 copies at the ISA store, and should be reprinted. Two hundred alone were distributed at the last Hispanic tree worker workshop in San Antonio. Additional translations for printed material and cost recovery for simultaneous translations at ISA events were also discussed. In the meantime, Salvador Cañis volunteered to set up a Hispanic Committee facebook page.

A Spanish track at the ISA Annual Conference sounded very appealing. One thought is to offer a Spanish Tree Academy workshop the Friday before (or Monday after) the ITCC Master's qualifying events. Hispanics attending the ITCC would be able to take advantage of both activities, while not needing to register for the full conference package. The greatest draws would be at the Orlando 2015 and/or Dallas 2016 conferences because of their large populations of Hispanic tree care workers.



Standing left to right: Carlos Anaya, Salvador Alemany, Mark Duff, Tomás Martínez-Trinidad, de Gouret Litchfield & Adolfo Sanchez (guest from Monterrey). Seated left to right: Carlos Llanos, Luana Vargas, Iris Magaly Zayas and Salvador Cañis.

Members of the Hispanic Committee have been active over the past year giving presentations in Mexico City, Colombia, Brazil and Texas. Carlos Llanos created the Colombian Association of Arboriculture with 37 members. Mark Duff has volunteered to update the 2009 Spanish version of the ITCC rules to 2012.

Salvador Alemany and Laura Mendiburu were both nominated for Chair. Selection of the winner will take place over a Skype conference call meeting in November.

Start planning today for Toronto 2013

The ISA Ontario Chapter will host the 2013 ISA Annual International Conference to be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, August 3-7, 2013. The educational sessions, the trade show, and other conference activities will be held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Hotel rooms are now available; the conference headquarters hotel is the Fairmont Royal York. Discounted room rates are available until July 1, 2013. Find more detailed information on hotel availability at www.isa-arbor.com/events/conference/index.aspx.

Additional information about planning your trip to Canada can also be found on the conference website. Keep watching the website and ISA Today for registration information and more details.

PEST POST

by Ron Billings

Invasive ants spreading like crazy

In 2002, pest control operator Tom Rasberry first discovered a new species of ant infesting outdoor landscapes by the millions in the Houston area. These ants have been given the common name Rasberry crazy ants to acknowledge Mr. Rasberry for first reporting them and to reflect the ant's rapid, erratic movements. The ant, believed to be from South America, has yet to be identified to species but may be closely related to the Caribbean crazy ant, *Nylanderia pubens*.

The ants may infest electrical equipment, causing short circuits and equipment failure. Large ant populations may disturb humans and animals wherever they occur in outdoor landscapes. Unlike most native ant species, crazy ants don't form colonies, mounds, or underground nests, but can be found in large numbers under or within almost any object, including stumps, soil, concrete, and potted plants. Nests primarily occur outdoors, but worker ants will forage into homes and other structures. Their tendency to occur in bags of soil or mulch, old landscape timbers and flower pots no doubt explains the rapid spread in Texas and other Gulf Coast states.

High numbers of crazy ants have been found in localized spot infestations in southeast Houston (Harris County), including Houston, Pasadena, Deer Park, Friendswood, San Jacinto Port, Pearland, Seabrook, League City and La Porte. In the last decade, the ants have spread to at least 23 counties in Texas, including Bexar, Brazoria, Brazos, Comal, Cameron, Fort Bend, Chambers, Galveston, Hardin, Harris, Hidalgo, Jefferson, Jim Hogg, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Nueces, Polk, Orange, Travis, Walker, Wharton and Williamson counties. This ant has the potential to spread well beyond the current range in coastal Texas. However, it is a semi-tropical ant and potential northern distribution is likely to be limited by cooler weather conditions.

The worker ants are small ($\frac{1}{8}$ inch long), light brown in color, with long legs and antennae and long, course hairs

covering the body. Some male and female ants have wings (alates) and are somewhat larger in size compared to the workers. The ants eat almost anything, including imported fire ants and honeydew produced by sucking insects. They may be harmful to domestic birds and animals as well as to wildlife, particularly ground-nesting birds.

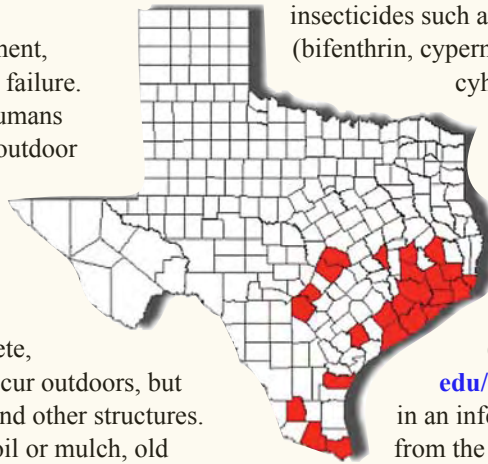
Control or eradication of Rasberry crazy ant populations is difficult, because many of the traditional chemicals used to control other ant species do not provide adequate control. They are not attracted to most bait products used for fire ants or other ant species. Temporary buffer zones can be provided by spraying surfaces with various commercially-available insecticides such as acephate, pyrethroid insecticides (bifenthrin, cypermethrin, cyfluthrin, deltamethrin, lambda-cyhalothin, permethrin, s-fenvalerate, and others) or fipronil. But treated surfaces are often effective for no more than 2 or 3 months.

Arborists and others can help in the battle against crazy ants by learning about how to identify and control them (visit <http://urbanentomology.tamu.edu/ants/rasberry.html>). To help reduce ants in an infested site, remove non-essential objects from the ground to discourage nesting. To avoid spreading ants, do not move plants, soil, mulch or other ant-infested items to non-infested locations.

If you think you have an infestation of Rasberry crazy ants, collect some adult ants in a vial containing rubbing alcohol, label the vial with date, location, and collector's contact information and send the sample to the Center for Urban and Structural Entomology, Texas A&M University, 2143 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843.



Photo and distribution map, Texas A&M University, Department of Entomology, Center for Urban & Structural Entomology.



Friends, Arborists, Countrymen,

It is my pleasure to announce that the Texas Tree Climbing Championship is scheduled for April 26 and 27, 2013. The TTCC committee has already been hard at work to bring to you, the Texas chapter members, a great event!

The venue will be Bob Woodruff Park in Plano. This will be the fourth time this great park has hosted the event, so many of you will be familiar with the location. It has an excellent collection of trees for our use and enjoyment, including the Bicentennial Bur Oak. This magnificent tree was chosen in 1987 as a tree which was alive when our constitution was ratified in 1787. A broken limb section has since determined that the tree is much older than originally thought. It is definitely worth a visit to this park, especially since we will be having our tree climbing competition in and around this fantastic tree.

Additionally, we will host a seminar aimed directly at and for the benefit of arborists and tree workers who spend some amount of time working aloft, or for those who supervise tree pruning crews. The seminar is scheduled for Thursday, April 25. The speakers and subject are yet to be determined, so if you have any ideas it is not too late to have them heard and considered.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this event I can be reached via e-mail at kbassett@arborilogical.com or by phone at 972-877-0358. We cannot do this kind of event without your involvement. The hours are long and hard and the pay is horrible but the experience is priceless. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Texas Tree Climbing Championship next April. Climb safe!!!

Respectfully,
Kevin Bassett, TTCC Chair

Tree planting fund fueled by fees is drying up

In some Central Texas cities, knocking down trees for various development projects can generate thousands of dollars to keep the city green. But if development slows, the fund can dissipate quickly.

Round Rock is set to spend \$227,000 over the next few months planting hundreds of trees. The money comes from developers, who pay into a city tree fund when they don't replant the trees they take down, said Emsud Horozovic, Round Rock forestry manager.

Horozovic said about 90 percent of Round Rock's tree fund comes from those development fees, and the fund has been sustained by about six major projects which have brought in more than \$800,000 since 2005. The biggest contribution has been more than \$300,000 in fees paid from building the University Oaks Shopping Center off I-35 in 2007, he said.

Development fee money in Round Rock has dried up, however, and officials project the fund will be at about \$32,000 next year, which Horozovic said will be the lowest since 2006.

Although the multi-year fund has usually grown each year since it was created in 2005, Horozovic said development has been slow and developers are scouting areas without trees to avoid fees.



Round Rock isn't the only place that has experienced this dilemma. Read the whole article by Jody Serrano at: <http://www.statesman.com/news/news/local/round-rock-planting-trees-but-fund-fueled-by-fees-/nSXyn/>

iTree 5.0 available; comes with mobile app

After six years and more than 10,000 downloads, the U.S. Forest Service has released i-Tree version 5.0, a suite of urban forest analysis tools, with changes inspired by users from 105 countries. i-Tree allows users to easily and accurately find the dollar value of the benefits provided by urban forests, including energy cost savings, storm-water capture and city pollution absorption.

The new software now also has an application for use on smartphones and tablets. Plus updates allow for forecasting the growth and benefits of trees over time, and an assessment of the human health impacts of air pollution removal by trees. More information at www.itreetools.org.

Thanks for a great conference!

Here are some notes from folks who attended the TTC on scholarship:

I recently was given the opportunity to attend the Tree Academy in Waco. The whole experience was wonderful. I enjoyed the breakaway portion in the afternoon the most. Dr. Gilman changed the way that I look at the young trees within our City. I also went away with a new perspective on pruning mature trees. Dr. Watson helped update my planting techniques. The disease portion was a pleasant challenge. Networking was an added plus as well.

Grace Clanton,
Horticulturalist, City of Cleburne



The Tree Academy & Conference was a great opportunity for me to expand my understanding of urban forestry and soil sciences. I was taught how to select trees from the nursery, best practices on how and where to plant trees, how to prune trees once they've been planted, and how to assess the health of a tree over its lifespan. Presenters like Skip Kincaid, Dr. David Appel, Dr. Hans Williams, ONCOR, Dr. Todd Watson, and Dr. Ed Gilman made these topics come alive.

The sessions on soil sciences were also interesting. Dr. Bryant Scharenbroch of the Morton Arboretum did an excellent job explaining the soil chemistry needed to make urban forests succeed. His discussion on job site compaction and its detrimental effects on tree health will hopefully encourage contractors to avoid this practice in the future.

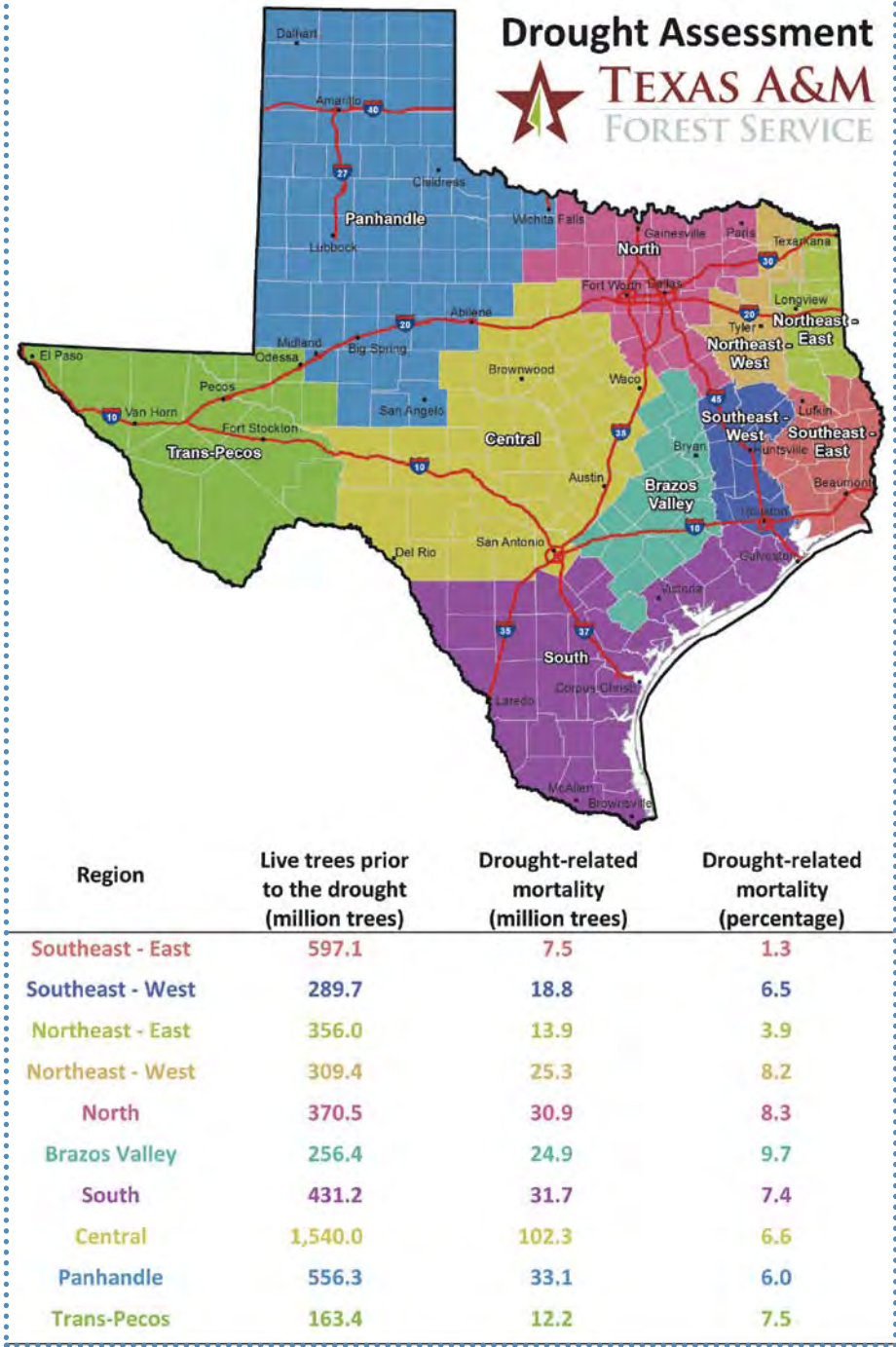
As an urban planner I don't deal with forestry or soil sciences regularly. The Texas Tree Academy & Conference was an excellent venue to expand my understanding of these fields from world-class professionals in a hands-on setting. Rodney D. Schmidt, MP&S
Assistant City Planner, Community Development Department, City of Tomball



A few thoughts on the Texas Tree Conference:

- Visiting with old friends
- Meeting new friends

301 Million Trees Killed by 2011 Drought



- Having lunch with that guy from across town who always waves from his pickup window
- Overhearing excited conversations about things you learned a long time ago
- Having your opinions challenged by that guy from Florida
- Discussing earthworms with that guy from Illinois
- Having that professor assure you that you're not as dumb as you think you are

- Climbing down Jacob's Ladder
 - Realizing the beer is at the top of Jacob's Ladder
 - Assuring others they'll be able to do the job better than you
 - Saying goodbye, maybe one last time
 - Driving home hoping to have more time at next year's conference
- Tom Frey
Landscape Architect, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Garland

Bajo la Sombra

La Identificación de los Árboles – Parte 3 por Micah Pace

Introducción:

¡Bienvenidos a la sección hispana de Bajo la Sombra (Under the Shade), el fuente de información de arboricultura en español! En esta edición yo les ofrezco la última parte de una serie sobre la identificación de árboles.

Los Objetivos son:

Explicar cómo las características de las plantas, tales como hábito de crecimiento, textura y color, pueden usarse en la identificación de los árboles.

Describir cómo la disposición de las hojas se usa para ayudar a identificar los árboles.

Familiarizarse con las diferentes formas, tipos de márgenes, bases y ápices de las hojas.

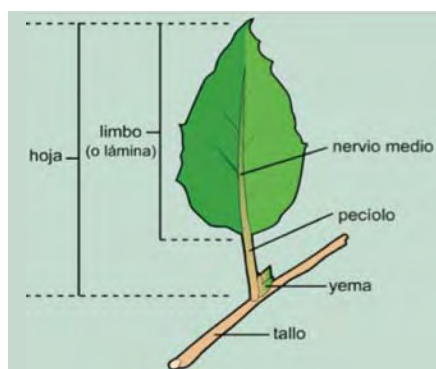
Aprender a usar las características de las yemas y tallos para identificar árboles sin hojas.

Principios Básicos de la Identificación

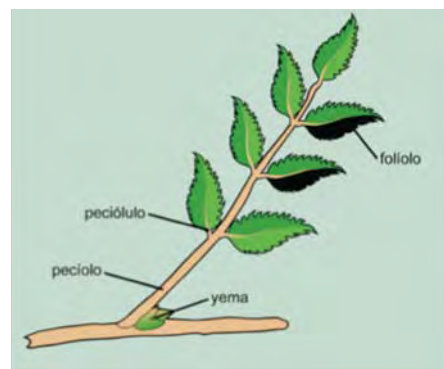
La identificación de plantas leñosas se basa en la morfología, es decir, el tamaño, forma y apariencia de las partes de la planta. Por lo tanto, es esencial tener un conocimiento básico de la anatomía de las plantas leñosas. Cuando identifican árboles y arbustos, los arbolistas usualmente se fijan en las hojas y forma general de los mismos, aunque con frecuencia la clasificación

se basa en las estructuras reproductivas: flores y frutos. Un buen arbolista aprende a identificar árboles usando muchas características, incluyendo su forma, corteza, yemas, varas, hojas, flores, frutos e, incluso, el olor. Esto permite la identificación en cualquier momento del año. Un arbolista que aprende a identificar los árboles fijándose nada más en las hojas, solamente podrá identificar

es inconfundible. El arce azucarero (*Acer saccharum*) en el otoño se puede vislumbrar en un bosque a grandes distancias debido a sus brillantes colores otoñales. El encino (*Quercus virginiana*) comúnmente se identifica por su copa que tiene un hábito desparramado y la presencia del musgo de Florida que se ubica encima de la copa (en varios estados en el sur del país). En otros



Los Términos de las Partes de una Hoja Simple



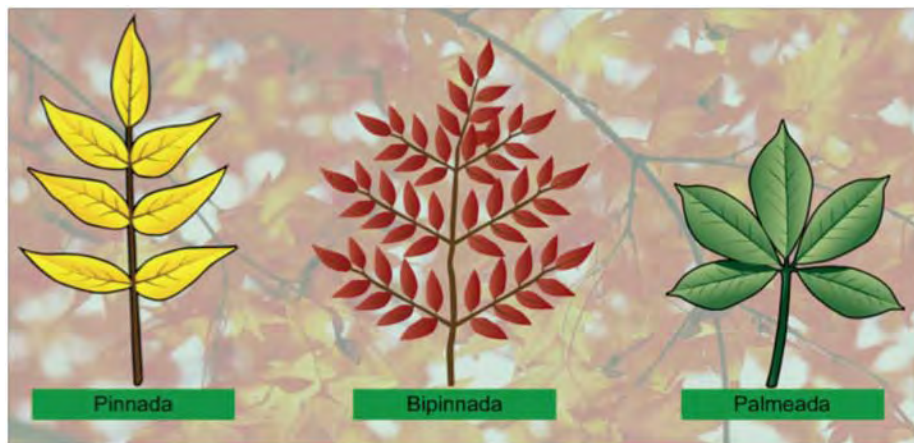
Los Términos de las Partes de una Hoja Compuesta

los árboles deciduos durante una temporada del año.

Muchos árboles pueden identificarse a cierta distancia en base a su forma y las características de su ramificación (hábitos de crecimiento). El olmo americano (*Ulmus americana*), con su hábito de crecimiento parecido a un jarrón y sus ramas grandes arqueantes,

casos, sin embargo, se puede hallar un grupo de arbolistas reunidos alrededor de una planta, examinando de cerca los detalles de una rama para poder identificarla.

Es importante usar toda la información disponible para la identificación de los árboles. Por las especies con hojas compuestas (como se ve en el gráfico) hay tres formas de disposición de los folíolos los cuales pueden ayudarle a identificar correctamente los árboles. También la identificación de algunas especies de árboles requiere reconocer características relativamente menores de las hojas, yemas o ramas. Por ejemplo, es posible que para distinguir entre dos especies relacionadas estrechamente sea necesario fijarse en el tipo de margen de la hoja, la forma de la base de la hoja o el ápice de la hoja, la presencia de pelos en las superficies superiores o inferiores de la hoja, o el color de las ramas jóvenes. Para la identificación de árboles deciduos en el invierno, los arbolistas deben estar ►



Tipos de Disposición de los Foliolos en las Hojas Compuestas



Los Tipos de Márgenes de las Hojas

◀ familiarizados con las características de la corteza, el hábito de ramificación, las ramas, yemas, frutos y médula.

A veces, la identificación de los árboles se basa en más que el sentido de la vista. El olor e incluso el sabor pueden ser útiles en la determinación de características únicas de las ramas, hojas, flores o frutos. Los arbolistas a veces usan pequeñas artimañas para ayudarse en la identificación de ciertas especies.

Un ejemplo de estas artimañas ayuda a limitar especies a nivel de género en base a si el árbol tiene una disposición de hojas y yemas opuesta o alterna. Para las hojas compuestas, la disposición de las hojas enteras se deberá considerar, no la disposición de los folíolos.

En las zonas templadas, la mayoría de los árboles con disposición opuesta de hojas son parte de cuatro géneros representados por la ayuda para la memoria “MAD Horse”, las siglas en inglés para Maple (arce), Ash (fresno), Dogwood (cornejo) y Horsechestnut (castaña de indias).

Existen pocas maneras simples de distinguir entre los grupos principales de coníferas (árboles que producen conos). Los pinos (*Pinus* spp.) tienen acículas usualmente producidas en agrupaciones de dos, tres o cinco. Contar las acículas puede ayudarle a identificar las especies. Las piceas (*Picea* spp.) y los abetos (*Abies* spp.) producen acículas separadas una por una. Las acículas de los abetos se desprenden del tallo, dejando en su lugar una “almohadilla” circular, mientras que las acículas de las piceas dejan atrás un pequeño pedúnculo. Otras coníferas a veces tienen follaje parecido a las leznas o escamas.

Usando una Clave Para Identificar los Árboles

Finalmente, muchos libros de referencia sobre los árboles y arbustos contienen claves de identificación. Una clave es un método paso a paso para descifrar la identidad de una planta. Las claves de identificación usan terminología que describe la forma, textura y disposición de las hojas, las características de las

yemas, la forma de las ramas y el tipo de flores y frutos.

Una clave de identificación se puede usar para determinar sistemáticamente la identidad de una planta. La mayoría de las claves consisten en un flujograma de preguntas con respuestas de “sí” o “no”. El usuario reduce las posibilidades al repasar varias características visuales de la planta considerada. Por ejemplo, se pueden usar las características de las hojas, tales como determinar si la disposición de las hojas (yema) es opuesta o alterna, si la planta tiene hojas simples o compuestas, o si los márgenes de la hoja son aserrados o enteros.

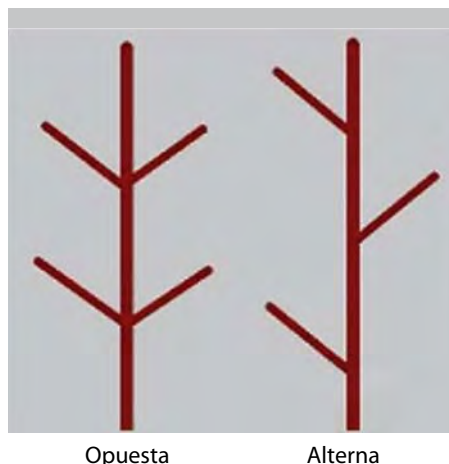
Algunas advertencias acerca del uso de las claves:

Primero, es necesario cierto nivel de experiencia y entendimiento de los términos usados en la clave para identificar la planta correctamente.

Segundo, debido a diferencias en el color y la morfología de la planta según la estación del año, es posible que la planta que se está identificando no concuerde exactamente con sus características escritas.

Tercero, no todas las claves abarcan completamente todos los árboles que se pueden encontrar en una región dada.

Finalmente, la variabilidad genética, la condición y localización de la planta, así como el medioambiente, pueden afectar el tamaño de las partes de la planta o pueden resultar en algunas irregularidades. Sin embargo, una clave es una herramienta que puede ser útil para determinar la identidad de un árbol.



Una desventaja de usar claves de identificación de libros es que el usuario puede retrasarse si no puede contestar una pregunta. El software para la identificación de las plantas usualmente no presenta esta desventaja pero al mismo tiempo no es tan conveniente usarlos en el campo como los libros. De cualquier forma, es vital comprender la terminología de identificación y así ustedes pueden empezar a identificar los árboles de sus regiones correctamente. ■

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