

Selected pages from the University of Tennessee Extension publication PB 1810, "Identifying Hickory and Walnut Trees Native to Tennessee Using BRFs (Brief Recognizable Features)," By David Mercker, Karen Kuers, David Buckley and Brien Ostby.

Bitternut hickory - *Carya cordiformis*



The bark of bitternut hickory is normally gray and separates into narrow ridges with narrow fissures. It sometimes resembles the bark of pecan. (Photo by D. Mercker)



The mustard-yellow, almost naked looking terminal bud of bitternut. (Photo by K. Kuers)



Bitternut typically has nine or more leaflets. (Photo by K. Kuers)



Note the ridges along the sutures of this green bitternut fruit. (Photo by D. Mercker)



The husk of bitternut is distinctly thinner than that of mockernut or Shagbark. (Photo by S. Baskauf)

Mockernut hickory - *Carya tomentosa*



Note the widely spaced ridges in the bark of mockernut. Bark can resemble black walnut bark, somewhat, but is more gray and less brown in color. (Photo by W. Cook)



Large bulb-shaped bud of mockernut hickory. The outer scales will fall off in winter, revealing the inner cream-colored bud scales. (Photo by K. Kuers)



Mockernut hickory commonly has nine leaflets, although sometimes there are only seven. (Photo by K. Kuers)



The fruit of mockernut hickory has a husk that is thicker than that of red or pignut hickory but thinner than that of shagbark hickory. (Photo by S. Baskauf)



Mockernut fruit (left) and shagbark fruit (right). (Photo by D. Mercker)

The undersurface of the mockernut hickory leaf with its dense mat of hairs. (Photo by K. Kuers)

Pignut hickory - *Carya glabra*



The bark of pignut hickory is very difficult to differentiate from that of red hickory. (Photo by D. Mercker)



The terminal bud and twig of pignut hickory are glabrous like the leaves. (Photo by S. Baskauf)



Pignut hickory has five leaflets, and the rachis and petiole are glabrous, lacking hairs. (Photo by D. Mercker)



The thin husk of pignut hickory fruit does not split open readily, and the fruit is recognized easily by its elongated "snout." (Photo by B.E. Wofford)

Shagbark hickory - *Carya ovata*



The shaggy bark of shagbark hickory. (Photo by D. Mercker)



Shagbark hickory typically has five leaflets, and the rachis and petiole are generally somewhat pubescent. (Photo by D. Mercker)



Shagbark hickory has a large, pubescent terminal bud with dark outer scales that end in stiff points. (Photo by B.E. Wofford)



Shagbark hickory fruit. (Photo by D. Mercker)



Shagbark hickory fruit has a very thick husk (up to half an inch thick) with a nut that is relatively small. (Photo by S. Baskauf)