

100
YEARS



Campaign to Protect
Rural England
Hampshire

How to Identify Hedgerow Trees and Shrubs in Winter



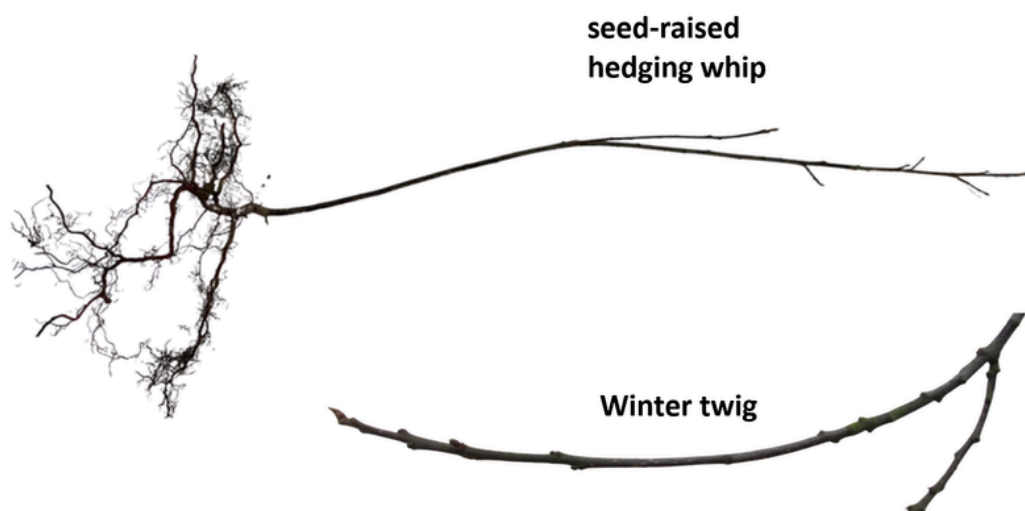
This guide created by volunteer Ian Howell, is designed to help you confidently recognise some of the most common native hedgerow species found throughout Hampshire's countryside.

www.cprehampshire.org.uk

Registered charity number: 1164410

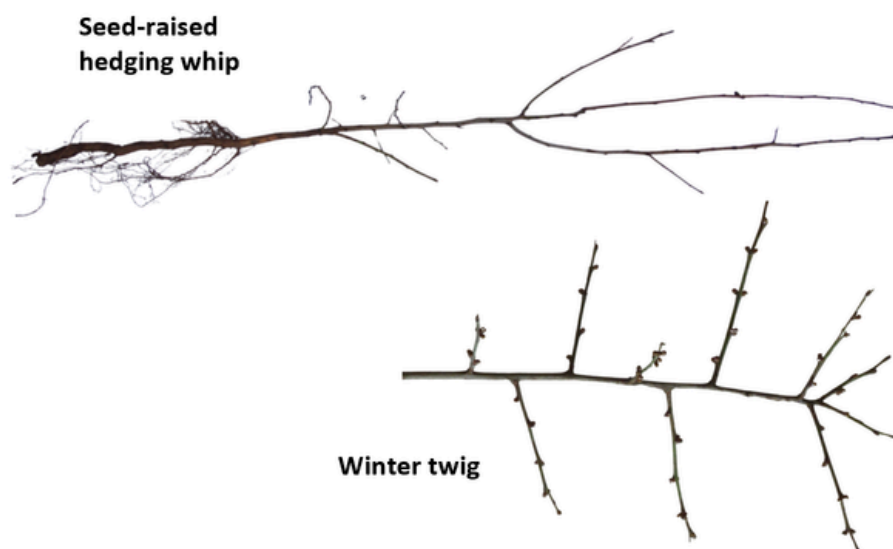
ALDER BUCKTHORN

Botanical name	Frangula alnus
Plant family	Rhamnaceae (buckthorn family)
Other species in same family	Common buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica)
Origin of common name	'Buck' may refer to the historical use of the tree as a purgative for livestock + thorn (twigs of the related common buckthorn are tipped with a thorn). The tree is often found in wet habitats similar to true alder trees.
Native Range	Britain, Europe to Central Siberia and Xinjiang, NW. Africa
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: arranged alternately, brown, hairy. Twigs: downy, dark brown with white streaks, no spines. Bark: dark blackish-brown, with a yellow layer beneath.
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: stiff, irregular, red tap root/lateral roots. Short fibrous roots. Shoots: slender, grey-brown. May have side branches, longer near the base and shorter near the top.
Value to wildlife	Leaves are the main source of food for caterpillars of the brimstone butterfly. Flowers are valuable for bees and the fruit is a food source for birds, particularly thrushes.
Historical uses	Wood used to make wooden nails, shoes, shoe lasts, arrows and skewers. Charcoal made from the wood was used in the manufacture of gunpowder. Leaves, bark and fruit are used to make dyes and the dried bark and fruit was used as a laxative.



BLACKTHORN

Botanical name	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Plant family	Rosaceae (rose family)
Other species in same family	Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>), dog rose (<i>Rosa canina</i>)
Origin of common name	Refers to the very dark-coloured bark and sharp thorns
Native Range	Britain, Europe to Central Asia and Iran, NW. Africa
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: arranged alternately, tiny and often in clusters of 3-5. Twigs: many short side branches which are at right angles to the stem and persist as thorns. Thorns have buds on them (cf. hawthorn). Bark: dark blackish-brown. Suckers from base.
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: Stiff pale reddish-orange tap root with variable amounts of fibrous root. Shoots: May be branched or unbranched, with few if any thorns, youngest shoots green.
Value to wildlife	Early flowering so provides a valuable source of pollen and nectar for bees in late Winter/early Spring. Leaves are a food source for the caterpillars of many moths and black and brown hairstreak butterflies. Birds nest among the dense, thorny stems, eat caterpillars and other insects from the leaves and feed on the fruits (sloes) in Autumn.
Historical uses	Wood used to make walking sticks and tool parts. Bark, flowers and fruit were used to make remedies which 'cleansed the blood', aided digestive complaints and eased rheumatism.



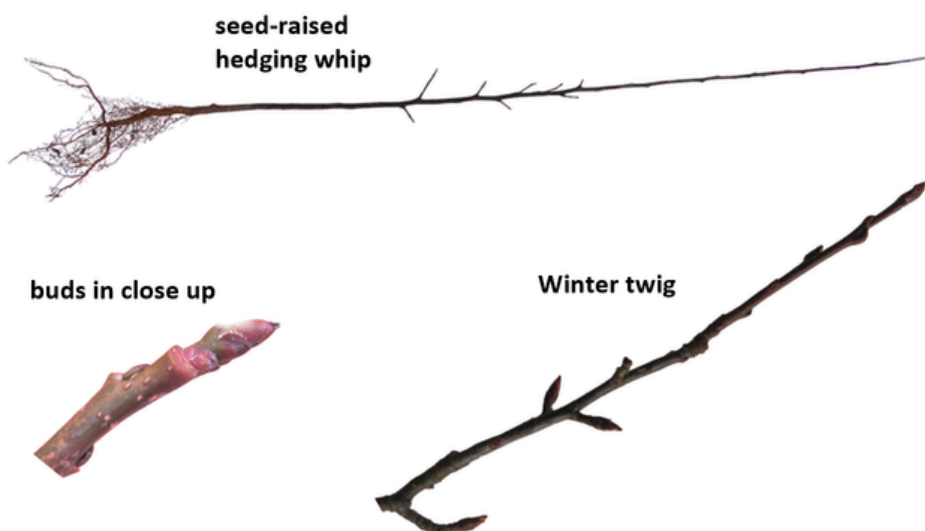
DOG ROSE

Botanical name	Rosa canina
Plant family	Rosaceae (rose family)
Other species in same family	Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>), blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>)
Origin of common name	The root was believed to cure rabies. The curved thorns resemble a dog's canine teeth.
Native Range	Britain, Madeira, NW. Africa, Europe to Central Asia and Pakistan
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: arranged alternately in a spiral along the stems. Point away from the stems. Stems: Long, stout and arching with large curved thorns. Green and flexible when young, becoming woody and brown with age.
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: stiff, forked tap root.. Shoots: green with distinctive 'zig-zag' shape and alternate buds in a spiral arrangement
Value to wildlife	Flowers provide a nectar source for insects. Fruits are a food source for birds such as blackbirds, redwings and waxwings.
Historical uses	Hips used to make rose hip syrup. Irritant hairs inside the hips were extracted to make itching powder.



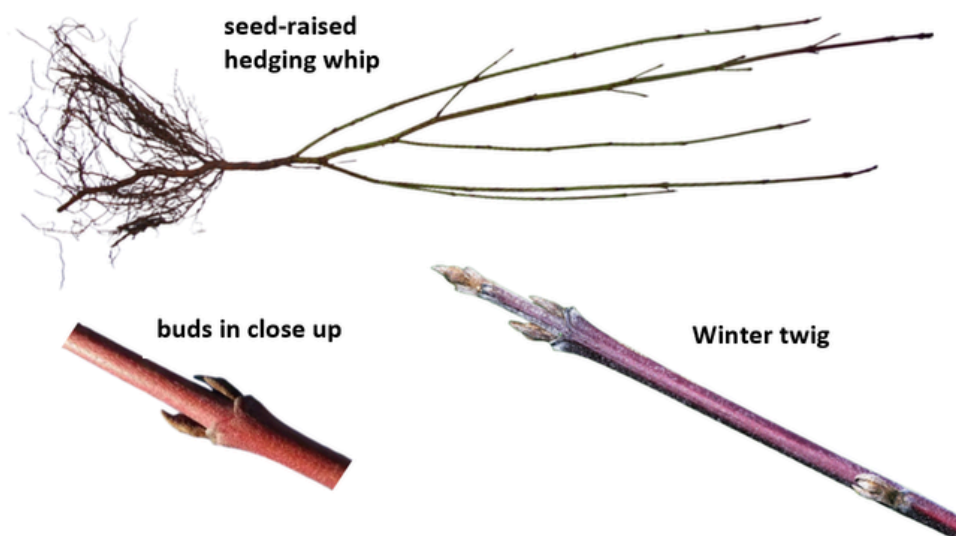
WILD CRAB APPLE

Botanical name	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>
Plant family	Rosaceae (rose family)
Other species in same family	Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>), hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>)
Origin of common name	May originate from the Old Norse word skrab or the Scottish scrab/scrabbe, referring to the tree's gnarled and twisted ('crabbed') appearance.
Native Range	Britain, Europe to Turkey
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: arranged alternately, purple-brown, usually without hairs. Twigs: grey-brown, may have spines. Bark: greyish-brown, scaly.
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: forked tap root with variable fibrous roots. Shoots: straight stem with a few short, stubby side branches. Small brown buds closely pressed to the twigs.
Value to wildlife	Flowers provide an early source of pollen and nectar for bees. Fruits are a food source for birds including blackbirds, thrushes and crows and mammals, such as mice, voles, foxes and badgers. Mature trees provide excellent habitats for mistletoe and lichens.
Historical uses	Wood was used for carving and turning. Makes a sweetly scented firewood. Fruit is used to make crab apple jelly.



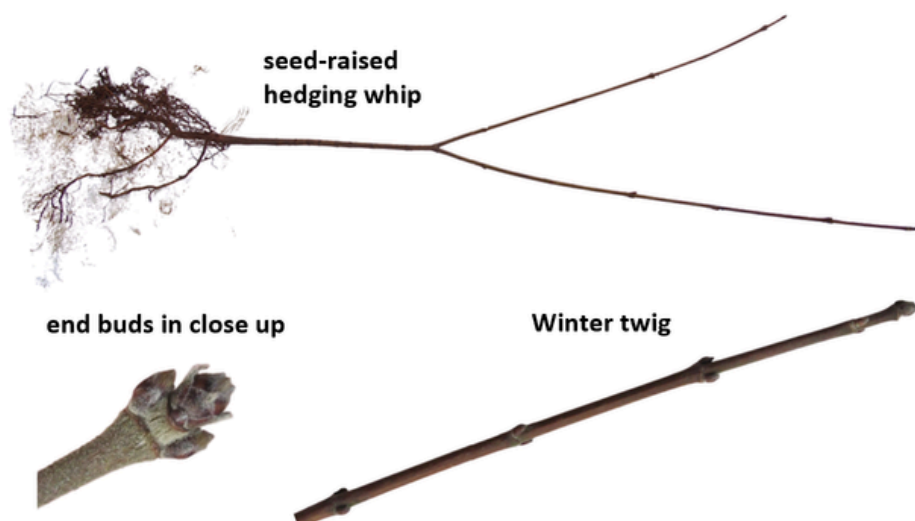
DOGWOOD

Botanical name	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>
Plant family	Cornaceae
Origin of common name	Possibly derived from Old English dag, meaning dagger or spike, as the wood was used to make sharp objects like daggers and skewers.
Native Range	Britain, Europe to Lebanon and N. Iraq
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: black, arranged in opposite pairs, each pair at right angles to the pair above or below. Twigs: slender, straight, smooth green stems, flushed red. Bark: grey, smooth.
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: extensive, fine, fibrous root system. Shoots: slender, smooth, green stems, flushed red. May be bushy with multiple shoots.
Value to wildlife	The leaves are a food source for the caterpillars of some moths, including the case-bearer moth. The flowers are visited by insects and the berries are eaten by many mammals and birds.
Historical uses	Bark was used in traditional medicine as a substitute for quinine to treat malaria and was made in to a drink to treat pain and fevers. Leaves were made into a poultice to cover wounds. Wood was used to make butchers' skewers.



FIELD MAPLE

Botanical name	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Plant family	Sapindaceae
Other species in same family	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>) - introduced but possibly native
Origin of common name	Maple derives from the Old English mapletreow and mapulder
Native Range	Britain, Europe to Iran, N. Algeria
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: arranged in opposite pairs, pressed close to the twigs. End buds flanked by two smaller buds. Covered in grey hairs. Twigs: red-brown, smooth, downy. Bark: rough, brown, often with corky flanges, becoming fissured and flaking
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: tap root, often forked, with sparse to extensive fibrous roots. Shoots: slender and straight, with or without short side branches, typically brown with longitudinal ridges.
Value to wildlife	Provides habitat for many invertebrates, including moth caterpillars such as the plumed prominent and barred sawfly moths, which feed on the young leaves. Flowers provide pollen and nectar for bees. Sap is attractive to aphids which are food for ladybirds and lacewing larvae. Small mammals feed on the fruits.
Historical uses	Wood used to make musical instruments, particularly harps, and Medieval drinking bowls.



GUELDER-ROSE

Botanical name	Viburnum opulus
Plant family	Viburnaceae
Other species in same family	Wayfaring tree (<i>Viburnum lantana</i>), Elder (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>)
Origin of common name	English herbalist John Gerard named the species the 'Rose Elder' in 1597. A sterile cultivar raised in Gelderland in the Netherlands was named 'Gheldersche Roose'.
Native Range	Britain, Europe, N. Africa, Northern/Central Asia
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: arranged in opposite pairs, each pair at right angles to the pair above or below, pressed closely to the twigs. Red/green no hairs. Twigs: smooth, grey, angular.
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: well developed, extensive, fine, fibrous root system. Shoots: stiff, stout, angular grey stems, often branched & bushy.
Value to wildlife	White flowers in Summer are pollinated by various beetles and hoverflies. Berries are a valuable food source for birds in Winter, particularly bullfinches, mistle thrushes and visiting waxwings.
Historical uses	Bark used as a muscle relaxant to treat cramps and spasms. Wood used to make skewers.



HAWTHORN

Botanical name	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Plant family	Rosaceae (rose family)
Other species in same family	Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>), dog rose (<i>Rosa canina</i>)
Origin of common name	Haw from Old English haga meaning hedge or enclosure + thorn
Native Range	Britain, Europe to Caucasus, N. Africa to Iraq
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: arranged alternately, small, protruding, reddish-brown. Twigs: grey-brown, hairless and very thorny. Thorns don't carry buds. Bark: heavily fissured, pinkish-brown.
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: distinctive pale yellow root collar. Stiff tap root with variable amounts of fibrous root. Shoots: grey, with or without thorns; straight and unbranched or irregular shapes with side branches; upper part of the main shoot often flushed red/purple.
Value to wildlife	Berries (haws) are a favourite Winter food of thrushes, redwings and fieldfares as well as small mammals. Dense, thorny stems create cover and nesting sites for many bird species. Leaves are a food source for the caterpillars of many moth species and flowers provide pollen and nectar for pollinating insects.
Historical uses	Wood is very hard and fine-grained making it good for turning, engraving and for tool handles, mallet heads, boxes, walking sticks and boat parts. Makes an attractive veneer.



HAZEL

Botanical name	<i>Corylus avellana</i>
Plant family	Betulaceae (birch family)
Other species in same family	Hornbeam (<i>Carpinus betulus</i>), Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>)
Origin of common name	Derives from the Old English word <i>hæsel</i> meaning cap or hat, referring to the leaf husk which covers the hazelnut
Native Range	Britain, Europe to Caucasus
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: arranged alternately in a spiral along the stem. Twigs: pale brown/olive-brown. Bark: pale greenish brown, smooth, often peels.
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: well developed, extensive, fibrous root system. Shoots: grey, very hairy with distinctive 'zig-zag' shape and alternate buds in a spiral arrangement along the shoots.
Value to wildlife	Dormice feast on hazelnuts in Autumn and eat caterpillars from the leaves in Spring. Hazelnuts are also eaten by other small mammals and birds such as woodpeckers, nuthatches, tits and jays. Leaves provide food for the caterpillars of several moth species. In managed woodland where hazel is coppiced, the open, wildflower-rich habitat supports various butterfly species, particularly fritillaries, and provides shelter for ground-nesting birds, such as nightingale, nightjar, yellowhammer and willow warbler.
Historical uses	Wood had many uses, including thatching spars, net stakes, water-divining sticks, hurdles and furniture. Still widely used today for stakes and binders in hedgelaying, charcoal production and pea sticks/bean poles in gardens/allotments. Also valued for its edible



SPINDLE

Botanical name	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>
Plant family	Celastraceae
Origin of common name	Derives from its historical use to make spindles for spinning wool
Native Range	Britain, Europe to Caucasus
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: green, pointed, arranged in opposite pairs. Twigs: thin, straight and green, usually 4-angled. Older branches are often corky. Bark: smooth, grey and fissured when mature.
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: extensive, fine, fibrous root system. Shoots: green, straight, unbranched, often 4-angled with corky edges.
Value to wildlife	Flowers are a rich source of nectar and pollen for insects. Leaves are eaten by caterpillars of moths, including the magpie, spindle ermine and scorched, as well as the holly blue butterfly. The leaves also attract aphids and their predators, including hoverflies, ladybirds and lacewings, as well as the house sparrow and other species of bird.
Historical uses	Wood was used to make 'spindles' for spinning and holding wool, as well as skewers, toothpicks, pegs and knitting needles.



WAYFARING TREE

Botanical name	Viburnum lantana
Plant family	Viburnaceae
Other species in same family	Guelder-rose (<i>Viburnum opulus</i>), Elder (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>)
Origin of common name	The name "Wayfaring tree" or "Wayfarer" was used by Herbalist John Gerard in 1597. He noticed many of these trees in the hedges alongside the pathways between Wiltshire and London.
Native Range	Britain, Europe to Iran, NW. Africa
How to identify in hedgerow	Buds: arranged in opposite pairs. White, downy, elongated and may be on short stalks. Twigs: grey-brown, downy, rounded. Bark: grey-brown and fissured.
Key features of hedging whips	Roots: multiple, stiff, spreading lateral roots with extensive fibrous roots. Shoots: multiple, stout, upright downy shoots with downy buds.
Value to wildlife	The berries provide food for birds. Insects such as hoverflies feed on the nectar. Leaves are a food source for the larvae of several moth species.
Historical uses	Stems were used to tie hale bales and make arrows.

