

SILVAH QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Regeneration plot (6-ft. radius plot)

Competitive Oak: Stump sprouts or stems >3 feet tall OR with a root collar diameter (RCD) >0.75 inches. Weight count by site index (see table, right).

Established Oak: Count all stems 0.5–3 feet tall OR with RCD 0.25–0.75 inches.

New Oak: Count all stems <0.5 foot tall and a RCD <0.25 inches.

Aggregate Oak Height (Optional): Sum of the height of all oak seedlings on a **milacre plot**, recorded in ½ foot increments.

Black cherry: Count all seedlings ≥2 inches tall with 2 normal-sized leaves. Stems > 1 foot tall count twice.

Conifers: Count any hemlock, pine, or spruce seedling with 2 whorls OR 0.5-1 foot tall. Stems w/ ≥3 whorls or >1 foot tall are counted twice.

Yellow-poplar: Same as black cherry. Ignore if oak site index <65.

Other desirables: Same as black cherry. Maples must pass the tug test. (NOTE: *For hickory and walnut, count all stems meeting established oak criteria -- Stems meeting competitive oak criteria are counted twice.*)

Saplings: 2 stems 1-2" dbh or 1 stem 3-5" dbh of a younger age class. Record species code.

Residuals: Good quality stems 6-10 inches dbh that are the same age as main canopy and will be retained after final harvest. Record species code.

Tall woody interference: Undesirable species more than 6' tall rooted in or near the plot. Record species code of the dominant stem.

Interference Plot (26-foot radius plot)

Low Woody Interference: Visually group foliage of shrubs and undesirable trees less than 6' tall together. Estimate cover by 5% increments. Record percent cover and code of the dominant species.

Fern (bracken, hay-scented, New York): Estimate percent cover by 5% increments. For other fern species, report half the cover. If >50% coverage, record in 10% increments.

Grass and Sedge: Estimate percent cover by 5% increments. Record 1% even if only a trace of grass or sedge is present.

Grapevine: Record the number of grapevines rooted in the plot.

Site limitations: Record if present anywhere on the plot. 1= poor drainage, 2= rocky/thin soil, 3= thick duff.

Deer Impact Level: Assessed in plots and between plots. One Value assigned to the entire stand.

- 1) No impact – found only inside well-maintained woven-wire deer-exclosure fences
- 2) Low impact – desirable regeneration abundant and of varying heights. Herbaceous plants common. Stump sprouts present.
- 3) Moderate impact – desirable regeneration present but with little height variability. Herbaceous plants rare. No stump sprouts. Non-preferred browse and browse-resilient plant species are noticeably common and widespread
- 4) High impact – desirable regeneration rare to absent. Non-preferred and browse-resilient vegetation limited in height growth by deer browsing.
- 5) Very high impact – desirable regeneration absent. Abundance of non-preferred vegetation is also reduced by browsing, browse-resilient plants show signs of heavy repeated browsing and a browse line is readily evident.

AGS = desirable species that contain at least one grade 3 log or will in the future, likely to persist another 15 years.

UGS = trees that do not contain at least one grade 3 or better log and never will, or are not likely to persist another 15 years.

Stocking criteria for species and species groups (numbers are weighted counts per plot)

Deer Impact Index	Black cherry	Yellow-poplar	Other desirables	New Oak	Est. Oak	Comp. Oak site class		
						L	M	H
1	10	1	15	25	12	1	2	3
2	15	5	30	25	12	1	2	3
3	20	10	50	50	25	1	2	3
4	25	50	100	100	50	1	2	3
5	50	100	200	200	100	1	2	3

Weighting factors for competitive oaks

Oak Site Index (BOF Site Class)

Regen Height RCD	High >75' (1)	Medium 55-75' (2)	Low <55' (3)
Ht 3-7' RCD 0.75-1"	1	1	1
Ht. 7-10' RCD 1-1.5"	2	3	5
Ht. >10' RCD >1.5"	3	5	10



Maianthemum spp.



Trillium



Indian cucumber root

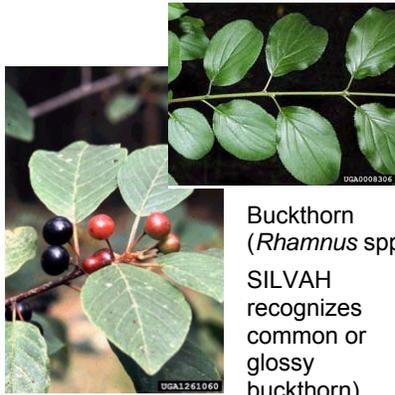
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Non-native Invasive Species: Record presence on any understory plot or presence in or near the stand in the comments section of the tally form. Some species of particular interest include:

Trees:



Tree-of-heaven
(*Ailanthus* spp.)



Buckthorn
(*Rhamnus* spp.)
SILVAH recognizes common or glossy buckthorn)



Japanese stiltgrass
(*Microstegium vimineum*)



Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*)



Japanese barberry
(*Berberis thunbergii*)



Japanese knotweed
(*Polygonum cuspidatum*,
P. sachalinense)

Shrubs:

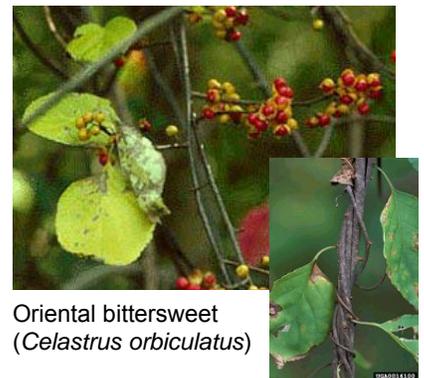


Bush honeysuckles (*Lonicera* spp.)
SILVAH recognizes Amur, Tartarian or generic bush honeysuckle species)



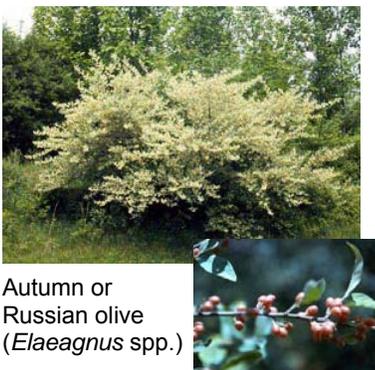
Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*)

Vines:



Oriental bittersweet
(*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

Forbs/Grasses:



Autumn or Russian olive
(*Elaeagnus* spp.)



Garlic mustard
(*Alliaria petiolata*)



Japanese honeysuckle
(*Lonicera japonica*)