

[MICRO FIELD GUIDE]



Sapling

Rise

Written and Illustrated by:
Ferne Mesa, Anna and Ethan

Sapling Rise



Written and Illustrated by Anna _____, Ferne
_____, Ethan _____, Mesa

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FOREWORD

Journey uphill from the base and you will find a small rise with many saplings atop its raised point. You have found Sapling Rise.

The people in our group are Ferne, Anna, Mesa, and, Ethan. Sapling Rise is, as mentioned, a rise. The sectors we worked on are called: The Doldrums of Death, Dumplings-on-a-Stick, Tree Moss Club, and The Club Moss Casino. There were a lot of weird mushrooms that gathered in clumps, but they were remarkably short-lived, and died shortly. In Mesa's aptly named Dumplings-on-a-Stick sector, there are two "dumpling" mushrooms on a dead log. Ethan's sector was called Doldrums of Death, because nothing ever happens. Ferne called her sector Tree Moss Club because she has a lot of tree club moss, and, with a bit of wordplay, it is what it is. Anna called hers The Club Moss Casinos because there were a lot of Club Moss all over her sector. She picked that name because she liked the sound of it. There are many saplings on top of the rise, such as *fagus grandifolia*, or American Beech.

We chose this plot because we found that out of three possible plots, it had the greatest amounts of various organisms living in a small three-meter by three-meter area. You would be amazed how much changed through the life of Sapling Rise. Many times we walked uphill only to find our string chewed up and have to go all the way down to get materials for repair. We think the culprit is a grey squirrel, accounting to the fact that we saw a grey fuzz ball escaping from the crime scene.

1	2 Ethan	3
4	5 Anna	6 Ferne
7	8 Mesa	9

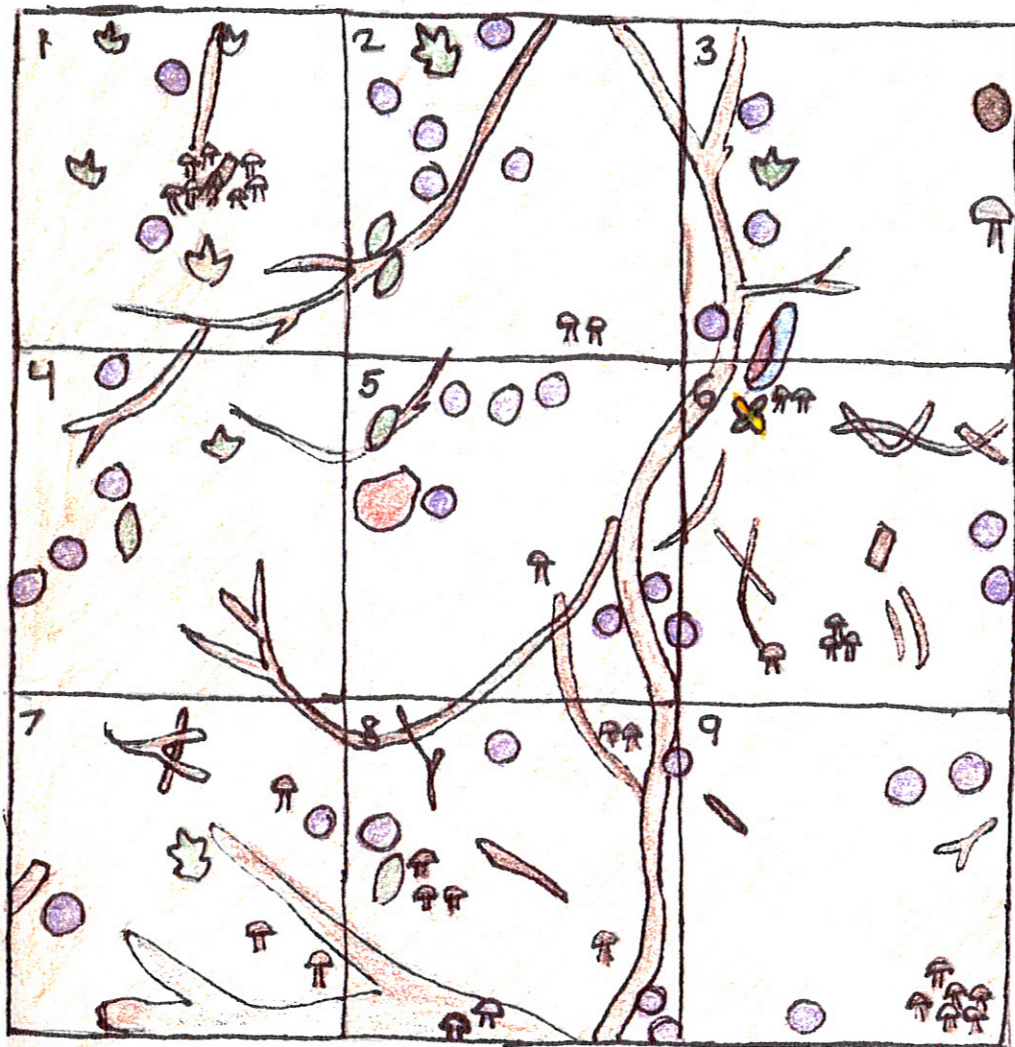
This chart shows whose sector is who's.

INVENTORY

NAME	LATIN NAME	COUNT	SIZE	OTHER
Dead Leaves		9,000	4-8cm	beech, maple, oak
Striped Maple	<i>acer pensylvanicum</i>	13	40-cm-1m	all saplings
Beech	<i>fagus grandifolia</i>	7	1m & 40 cm	all saplings
N. Red Oak	<i>quercus rubra</i>	3	5 cm	all saplings
	<i>psathyrella hydrophila</i>	35	5-6 cm	all dead
Black Spruce	<i>picea mariana</i>	1	1m & 20 cm	only foliage in our plot
Moneywort	<i>lysimachia nummularia</i>	1	42 cm	vine plant
Tree Club Moss	<i>lycopodium obscurum</i>	34	14 cm	most alive; some dead
White Adders Mouth	<i>malaxis brachypoda</i>		5 cm	completely dead
	<i>mica schist</i>	1	40 cm	mossy
Stump		1	20 cm	dead
	<i>ganoderma applanatum</i>	1	7cm	it's in rigor mortis
Hairy Cap Moss	<i>polytrichum commune</i>	2	8cm	hard to identify
Stick		24	1m	dead, all dead
	<i>mycena galericulata</i>	5	2cm	tiny, tiny mushrooms
unidentified mushroom		1	8cm	what is this?
Velvety Earth Tongue	<i>trichoglossum hirsutum</i>	2	5cm	very obscure

This inventory shows everything we found in our plot. As you can see, it shows the common name, the Latin name, the count, size, a bit of other information about the thing mentioned, and what sector it is found in. Mushrooms have no particular common names, so most of the things with just a Latin name are mushrooms. The only one that isn't mica schist is a rock. We also saw one worm, even though it isn't listed in the inventory.

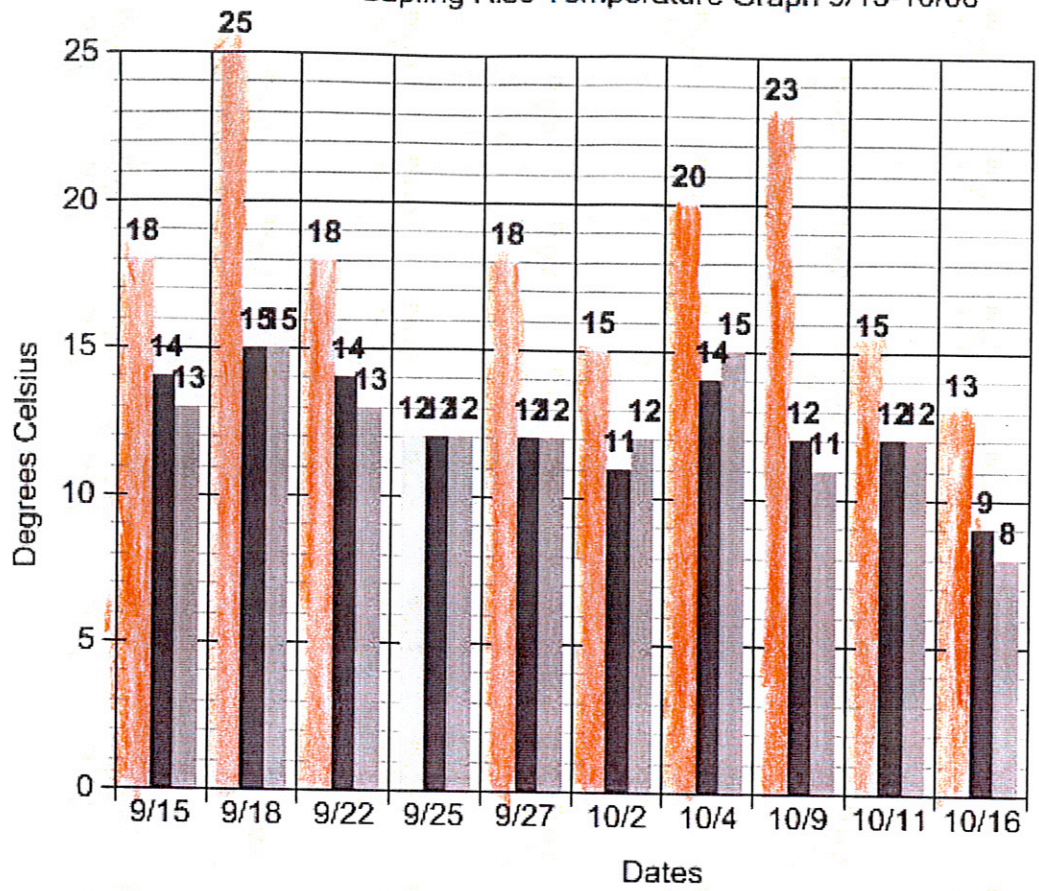
Map of Sapling Rise



Key Legend

- - dead leaves
- ☐ - Psathyrella Hydrophila
- ✂ - dead sticks
- ◊ - Beech sapling
- ♣ - Oak sapling
- ♠ - Striped Maple sapling
- ☐ - Ganoderma Applatum
- ☐ - Mycena Galerucata
- ☐ - Unidentified mushroom
- - tree club moss
Lycopodium obscurum
- - Hairy Cap Moss
- - rock

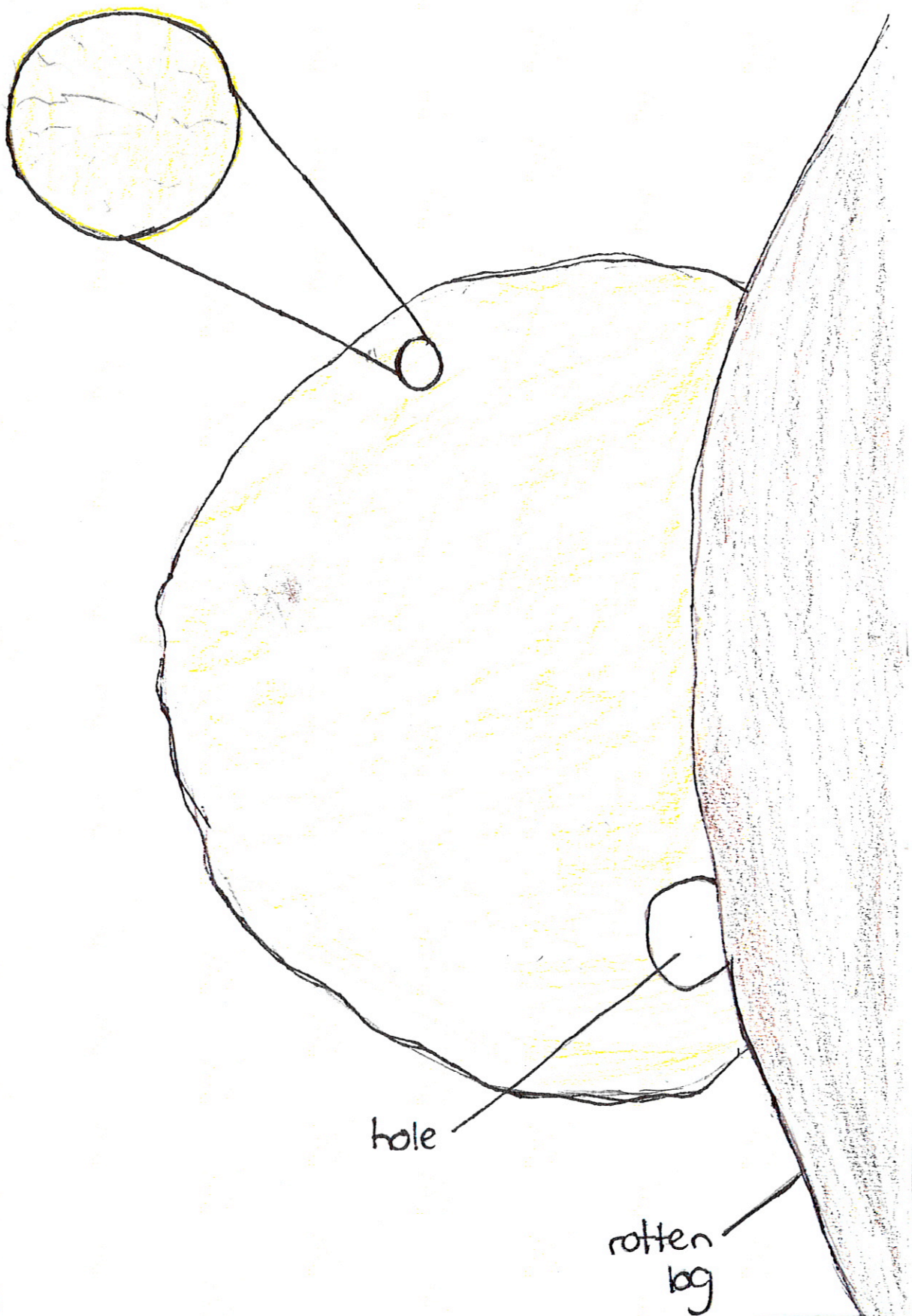
Sapling Rise Temperature Graph 9/15-10/06



Sapling Rise Field Journals

This temperature graph shows what the temperature was whenever we were at Applewoods. The places we put the thermometers were on the ground, 25cm below the ground, and 60cm below the ground. We chose to present it in bar graph form. It can be a little strange because sometimes it was colder at 25cm below than 60cm below the ground.

Ganoderma Applanatum

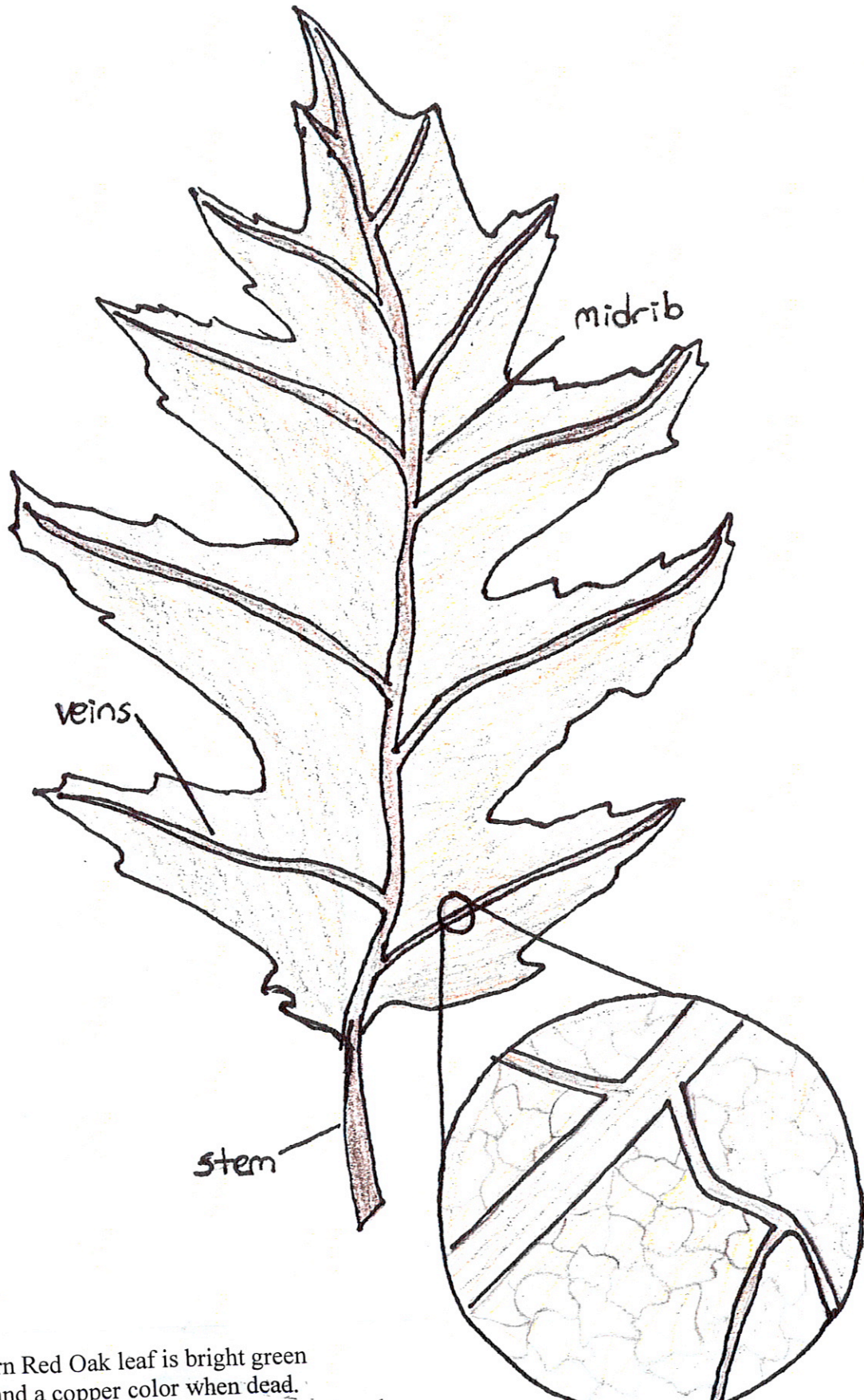


ground
-250
-600

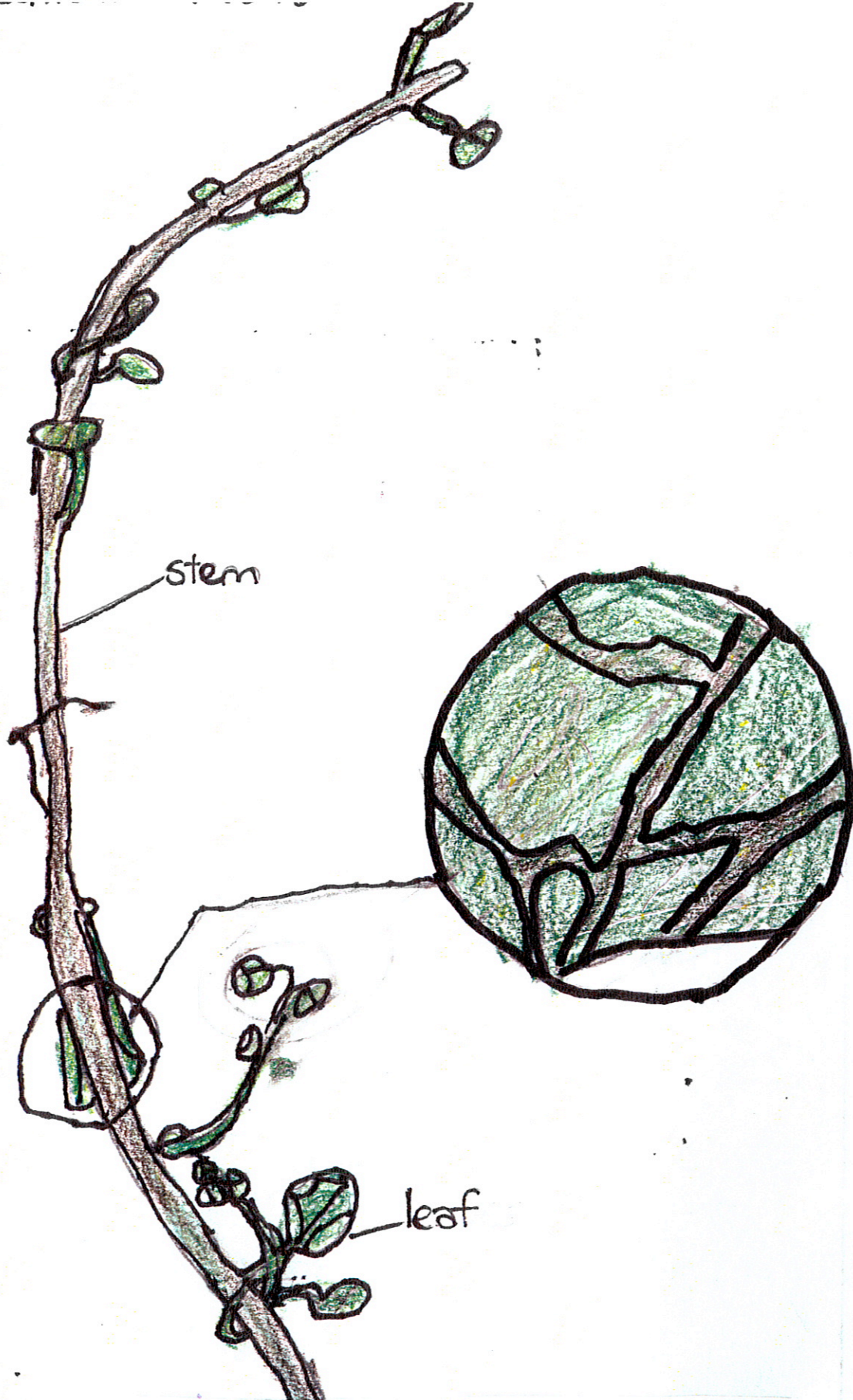
... some we call the dumplings. They are big, white, hard, and

Northern Red Oak -

Quercus Rubra



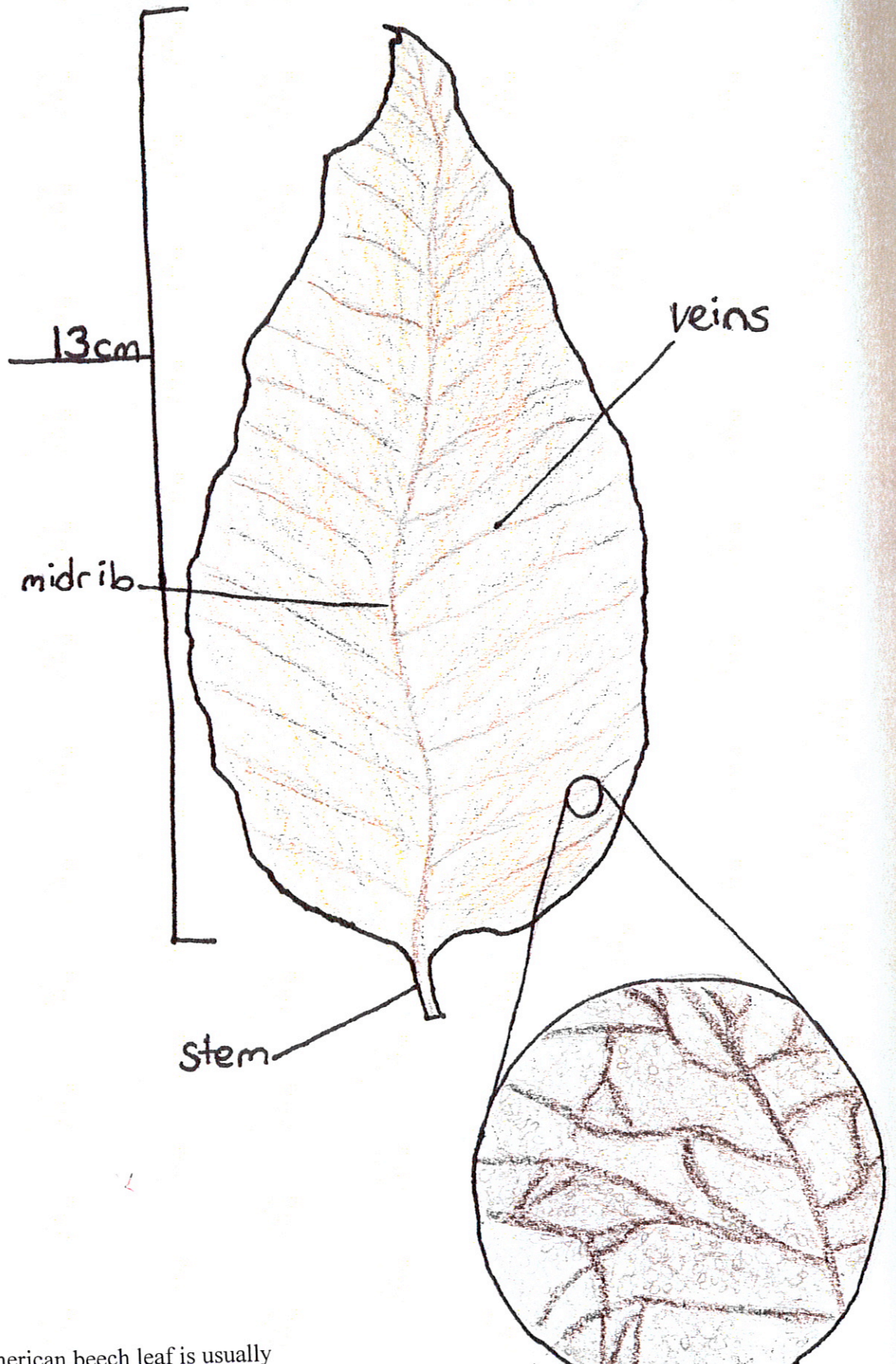
The Northern Red Oak leaf is bright green when live and a copper color when dead.



This moneywort vine we found is about 40 cm long and each branch (some which stuck straight up) was about 3 cm high. Moneywort is a vine plant that is extremely low to the ground. We thought we had found another vine, but it was the end of the first vine. The stalk is green/brown, but the branches and leaves are light green.

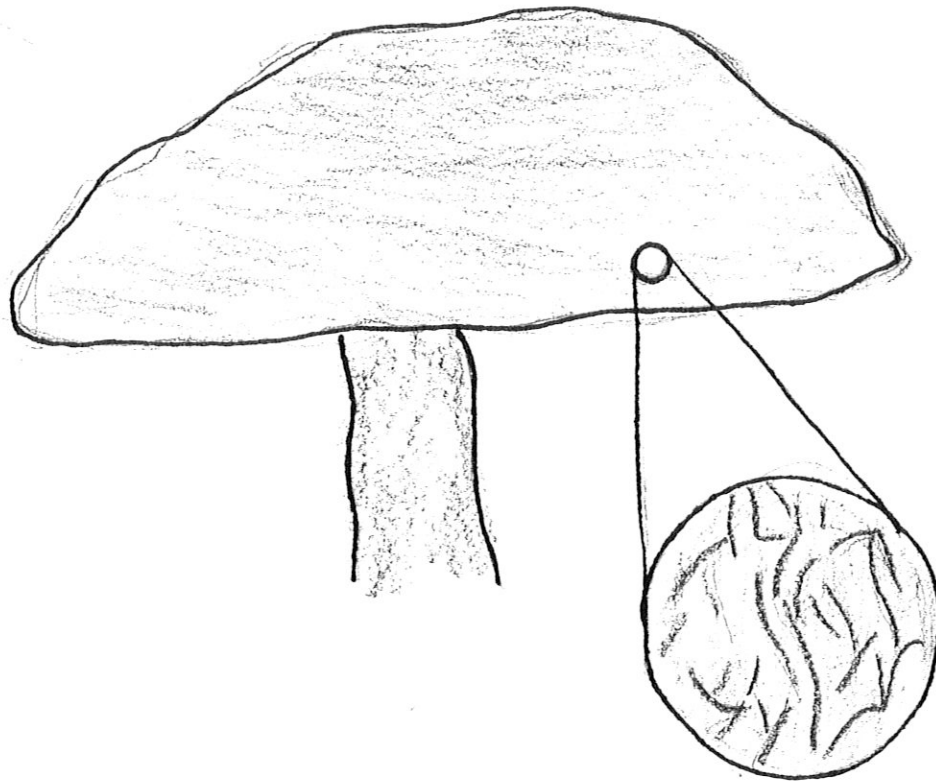
American Beech-

fagus grandifolia



The American beech leaf is usually

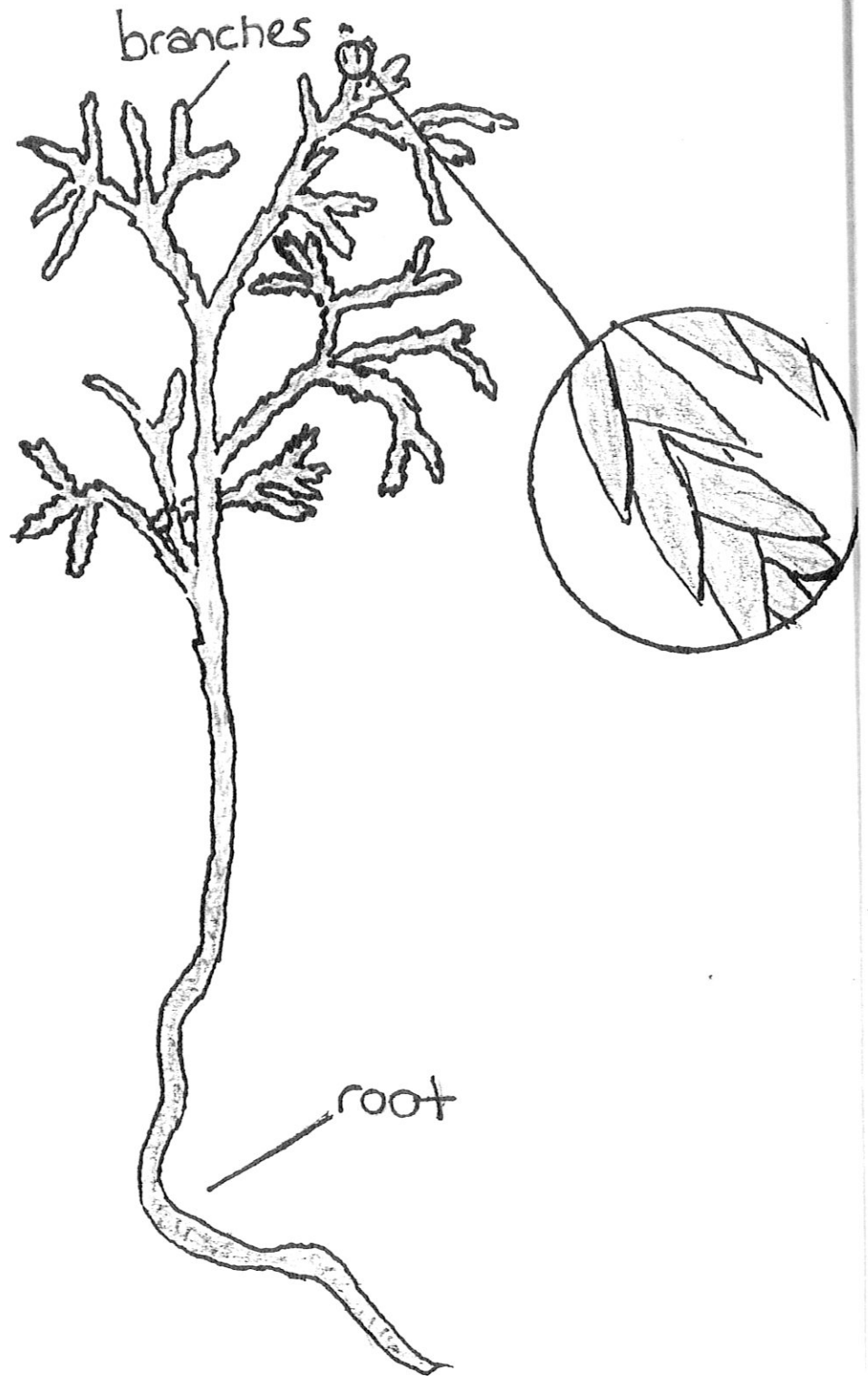
Hydrophila



This is a mushroom that grows in large clumps. They are 5-6 cm wide at the caps. They have gills, and rot really quickly, after which they turn into a brownish goop. They grow almost as fast as they die so we always had plenty of them in our plot.

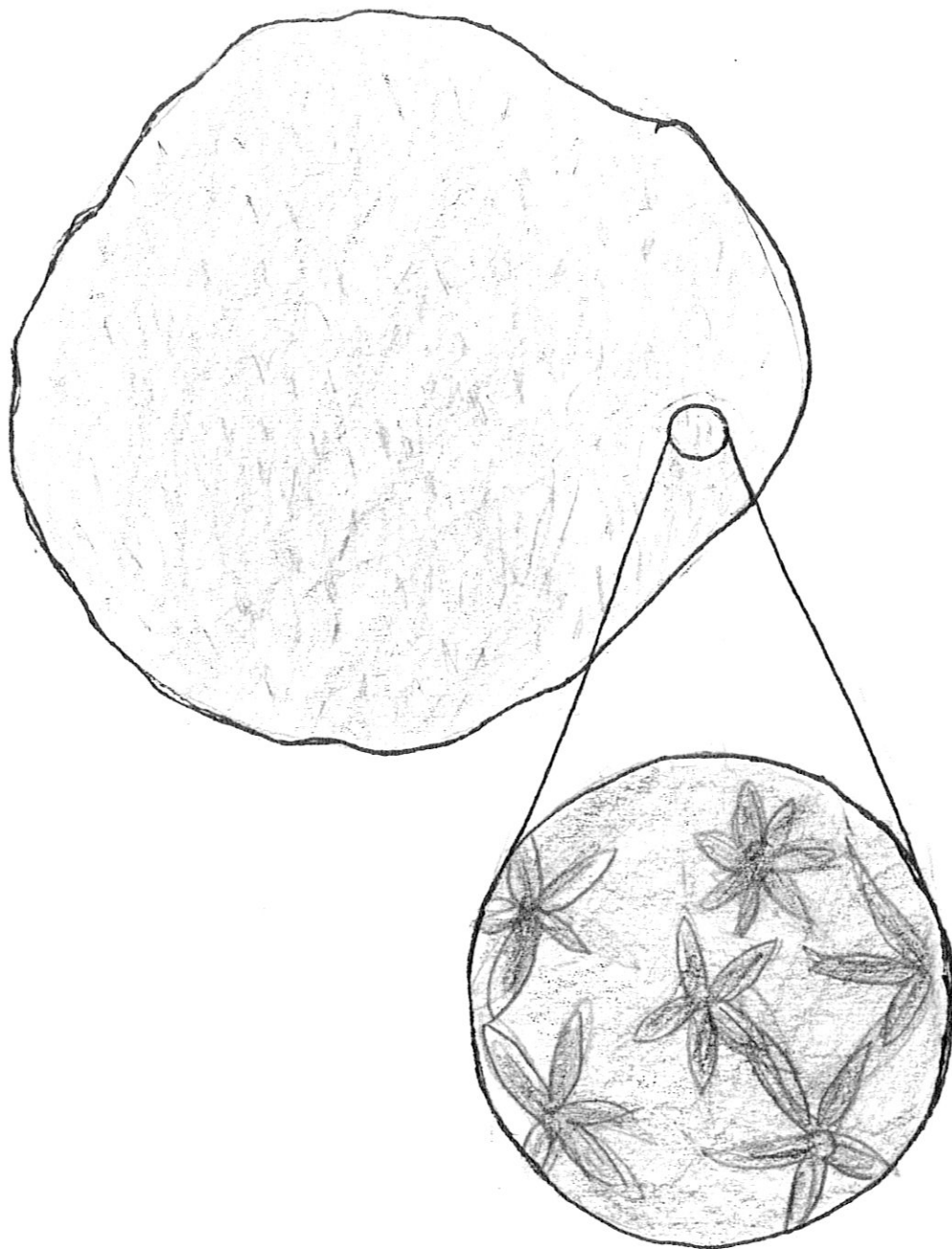
Tree Club Moss-

Lycopodium obscurum



The Tree Club Moss is about 14cm high. When they die, the tiny needles they are covered in turn brown and flake off. They grow pretty low to the ground, where they look like tiny pine trees.

Mairy Cap Moss -
Polytrichum commune



This moss is quite common and grows in large clumps. It is a very bright green and is made of feathery needles stuck together. It becomes slightly brown at the roots.

Striped Maple -

acer pensylvanicu



Tree Description

We chose to do the Striped Maple, *Acer pensylvanicum*, for our tree description, because there are a lot of them in our plot. The fruits look like miniature helicopters. They act like them too. When they fall off, they twirl down to the ground. The Striped Maple is green and has white stripes up and down the sides. The one we were studying has a gall (insect nest inside a ball) on one of the branches. The trees in our plot were only about 2 feet to 1 meter but can grow up to 15 feet high. A Striped Maple leaf can grow up to 18 cm, even though ours aren't quite that big. Striped Maple is also called Moosewood, because moose sometimes eat the bark off the tree. In the fall the leaves turn yellow and then brown before falling off. In the spring and summer, there are clumps of green, hanging flowers that really only last a little while before dieing. The leaves are very light, despite their large size, so they get blown around a lot. When the leaves on our tree turned brown, and the branch they were on turned a brownish-orange, even a little pink.

