

## Key to the Common, Naturally Occurring Willow Species at Low to Moderate Elevations in Douglas County, Oregon

*Carex Working Group – 2009*

- 1a. Plants clonal by root sprouting; petioles absent or very short; leaf blade linear to narrowly elliptic (length 10 – 23 X width) to lanceolate
  - 2a. Leaves linear, length 10 – 23 times width, hairy ..... *S. exigua*
    - 3a. Plants 0.5 – 5 m tall; female catkins loosely flowered; female catkins with axis 10 – 60 mm long; style length 0 – 0.2 mm long, stigma lobe 0.25 – 0.5 mm long ..... *S. e. var. exigua*
    - 3b. Plants 1 – 17 m tall; female catkins moderately to very densely flowered; female catkins with axis 18 – 37 mm long; style 0.16 – 0.5 mm long, stigma lobes 0.35 – 1 mm long ..... *S. e. var. hindsiana*
  - 2b. Leaves narrowly elliptic, length 2.8 – 8.5 times width, hairy or becoming glabrous
    - 4a. Petioles with dense, spreading hairs; leaves persistently hairy ..... *S. sessilifolia*
    - 4b. Petioles with sparse or appressed hairs, or glabrous; leaves becoming glabrous ..... *S. melanopsis*
- 1b. Plants distinct shrubs, not clonal by root sprouting; petioles longer; leaf blades lanceolate to ovate
  - 5a. Petiole with glands near base of blade ..... *S. lasiandra*
  - 6a. Leaves green below ..... *Salix lasiandra* var. *caudata*
  - 6b. Leaves glaucous below ..... *S. lasiandra* var. *lasiandra*
  - 5b. Petiole lacking glands near base of blade
    - 7a. Lower surface of leaf blade densely pubescent below, the short hairs shiny and soft like crushed velvet, pleasant to touch ..... *S. sitchensis*
    - 7b. Lower leaf surface glaucous to hairy, but not pleasantly velvety
      - 8a. Leaves linear to narrowly elliptic, entire to spinulose-serrulate; plants often producing catkins all summer long; clonal by root sprouts but older plants sometimes looking like non-clonal shrubs
      - 9a. Leaves linear, length 10 – 23 times width, hairy ..... *S. exigua*
        - 10a. Plants 0.5 – 5 m tall; female catkins loosely flowered; female catkins with axis 10 – 60 mm long; style length 0 – 0.2 mm long, stigma lobe 0.25 – 0.5 mm long ..... *S. e. var. exigua*
        - 10b. Plants 1 – 17 m tall; female catkins moderately to very densely flowered; female catkins with axis 18 – 37 mm long; style 0.16 – 0.5 mm long, stigma lobes 0.35 – 1 mm long ..... *S. e. var. hindsiana*
      - 9b. Leaves narrowly elliptic, length 2.8 – 8.5 times width, hairy or glabrous

- 11a. Petioles with dense, spreading hairs; leaves persistently hairy ..... *S. sessilifolia*
- 11b. Petioles with sparse or appressed hairs, or glabrous; leaves becoming glabrous ..... *S. melanopsis*
- 8b. Leaves narrowly elliptic to very broad, entire to serrulate but not spinulose; producing catkins at a defined time early in the season only; not clonal from root sprouts, though the spreading lower branches may root by layering
- 12a. Leaves glabrous below; twigs usually red; stipules usually persistent and prominent ..... *S. prolixa*
- 12b. Leaves hairy below (hairs sometimes sparse); twigs usually brown, gray, or yellow; stipules usually deciduous and inconspicuous, sometimes persistent and prominent
- 13a. Leaves obovate (spoon-shaped, widest in upper half), AND with leaf margins definitely rolled under to form a rim; leaf hairs usually dingy or orange (at least in part); leaf tips usually rounded to acute; habitat typically dry . *S. scouleriana*
- 13b. Leaves usually elliptic or ovate, usually widest near or below middle; leaf margins not or slightly rolled under; leaf hairs white or sometimes dingy or orange; leaf tips usually pointed; habitat moist
- 14a. Leaf margins entire or finely serrate, 5 – 13 teeth per cm; lower surface of leaves glaucous and glabrous; leaf hairs white and gray; leaf length/width ratio 2.4 – 4.5; stipules usually conspicuous; young twigs usually red ..... *S. prolixa*
- 14b. Leaf margins coarsely toothed, 2 – 6 teeth per cm; lower leaf surface glaucous and either glabrous or hairy; leaf hairs white and often also rusty or yellowish; leaf length/width ratio 1.5 – 9.6; stipules usually inconspicuous but sometimes conspicuous; young twigs gray, brown, gray-green, yellowish, or red-brown
- 15a. Leaves proportionately broader, with length/width ratio 1.6 – 4.2; leaves 18 – 55 mm wide; leaf blades thinner; leaf blade hairs longer and sparser, sometimes absent ..... *S. hookeriana*
- 15b. Leaves proportionately narrower, with length/width ratio 3.2 – 9.6; leaves 6 – 32 mm wide; leaf blades thicker and stiffer, with more strongly glaucous undersurfaces; leaf blade hairs shorter and denser ..... *S. lasiolepis*