

Medium Shrubs

- This category represents those plant materials b/w 2-4 m tall. They may also be any shape, color or texture. Again their branches usually extends to the ground or just slightly above it. Medium shrubs serve the same type of function as do low shrubs, but with slightly spatial containment. Medium shrubs may act as a visual transition in a composition b/w tall and low shrubs. Examples are

Hibicus rosa chinensis

Adenium besum

Cassia glauca

Jatropha

Low Shrubs

- These are next smaller plant category in the hierarchy of plant sizes. Low shrubs 1-2 m in height at maturity. Low shrubs can be used compositionally to connect other unrelated elements in the landscape and mix plantation with trees. Example are:

Lantana camara

Pelea

carissa grandiflora *verigata*

Beloperone gatatta *Acalypla tricolor*

Rosa sps

PLANT FORM

- The form of an individual plant or group of plants is the overall shape and habit of growth. Of all the plant characteristics, it is its shape that probably creates the strongest initial impression.
- It is the key factor in establishing the structure of a plant composition, influencing unity and variety, acting as accents and coordinating vegetation with hard elements in the design. The basic types of plant form are illustrated in figure³.

Fastigate

A fastigate plant form is upright, narrow and tapers to a point at its top. In a design, fastigate plant forms emphasize the vertical by leading the eye skyward. They give a sense of verticality and height to both a plant mass and to a space they enclose.

Examples are:

Casaurena equisetifolia

Papulus nigra

Papular eumaricana

Thuja orientalis

Cupressus sempervirens



Columnar

A columnar plant form is the same as a fastigiata form except that it has a rounded top. Somewhat rigid in appearance and has branching strongly vertical.

Examples are:

Garvillia robusta

Saraca indica

Pyrus communis

sterculia diversifolia



Spreading and Vase Shaped

This type of plant form has high, wide and spreading branches and mostly width and height are nearly equal at maturity. Its is a majestic appearance which gives excellent shade.

Examples are:

Ficus altissema

Delonix regia

Acacia arabica

A.farmesiana

Alstonia schularis

Pithecolobium dulce



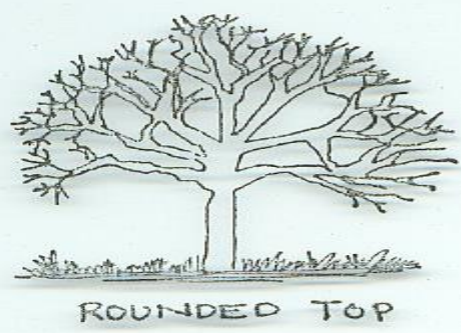
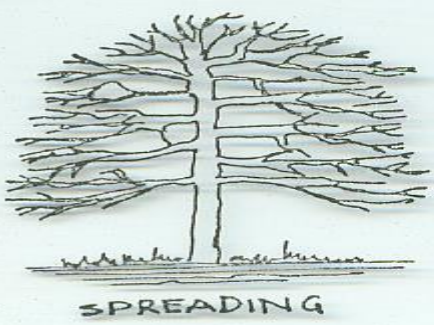
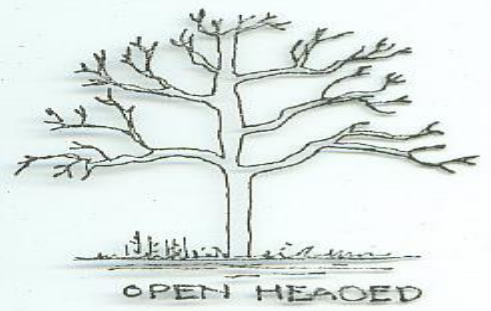
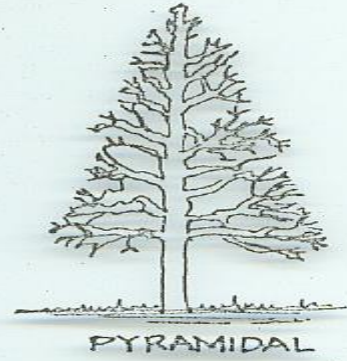
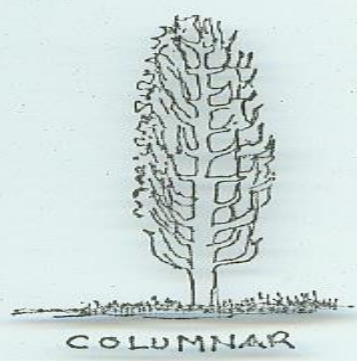


FIG. 2B
PLANT FORMS

Open Headed

This type of plant material form is not common in the landscape plants. Sometimes irregular open head forms are developed when the plants are matured and very few plants developed regular open head with lamb and branches.

Examples are:

Adinium sp.,

Broussonetia papyrifera

Caesalpineae ferrea

Erythrina subrosa

Magnolia sp



Round Top

This type of plant material form has a distant rounded or spherical appearance. It has dense foliage. In large trees a heavy shade is cast.

Examples are:

Ficus bengalensis

Cedrala toona

Acer oblongum

Albizia lebbek

Cordia myxa

Ficus glumerata

Mangifera indica



Pyramidal

This type of plant form is cone-like in appearance, gradually tapering from its base to an observable point. Pyramidal plant forms are very sharp and distinct in their outlines in addition to possessing an easily noticeable pointed top. They may be used as visual accents, particularly when contrasted against lower globular forms plants.

Examples are:

Pinus halepensis

Araucaria excelsa

Pinus longifolia

Picea sp.



Weeping

A weeping plant form has predominantly or downward arching branches, very graceful appearance and glossy. Other plants can't grow beneath these plants.

Examples are:

Salix babylonica

Prosopis equisatifolia

Contoneaster apiculata



PLANT COLOUR

- Foliage, flowers, fruit, branches and bark of trunk are all source of plant colour and all are influenced by seasonal variations.
- In foliage, the principal colour is of course green, with many variations from dark green to light green including shades of yellow, blue and bronze. Colour of all these parts are prominent mostly in spring and autumn.

- Plant color may be brought as an emotional characteristic because it directly affects the feeling and mood of an outdoor space.
- Bright color convey a light, cheerful atmosphere while dark colors portray a more sober feeling.
- Dark greens give a quite and peaceful feeling and provide a cooling environment.
- Plant color is also significant because it is easily seen, especially in shrubs, flower colors are more prominent in design.

PLANT TEXTURE

It is the visual roughness, smoothness and appearance of plant influenced by leaf size, shape, surface and arrangement on the twig. Leaf shape, margin, tip and arrangement is illustrated in figures and is discussed as follows:

Leaf Shape

Leaf shape is a very important visual characteristic of a plant and a striking display can be achieved by concentrating on the shape of the leaves. There are various shapes of leaves in different plants planting in the landscape.

BOTANICAL TERMS CHART

LEAF SHAPES



LEAF TIPS



LEAF BASES



LEAF BASES



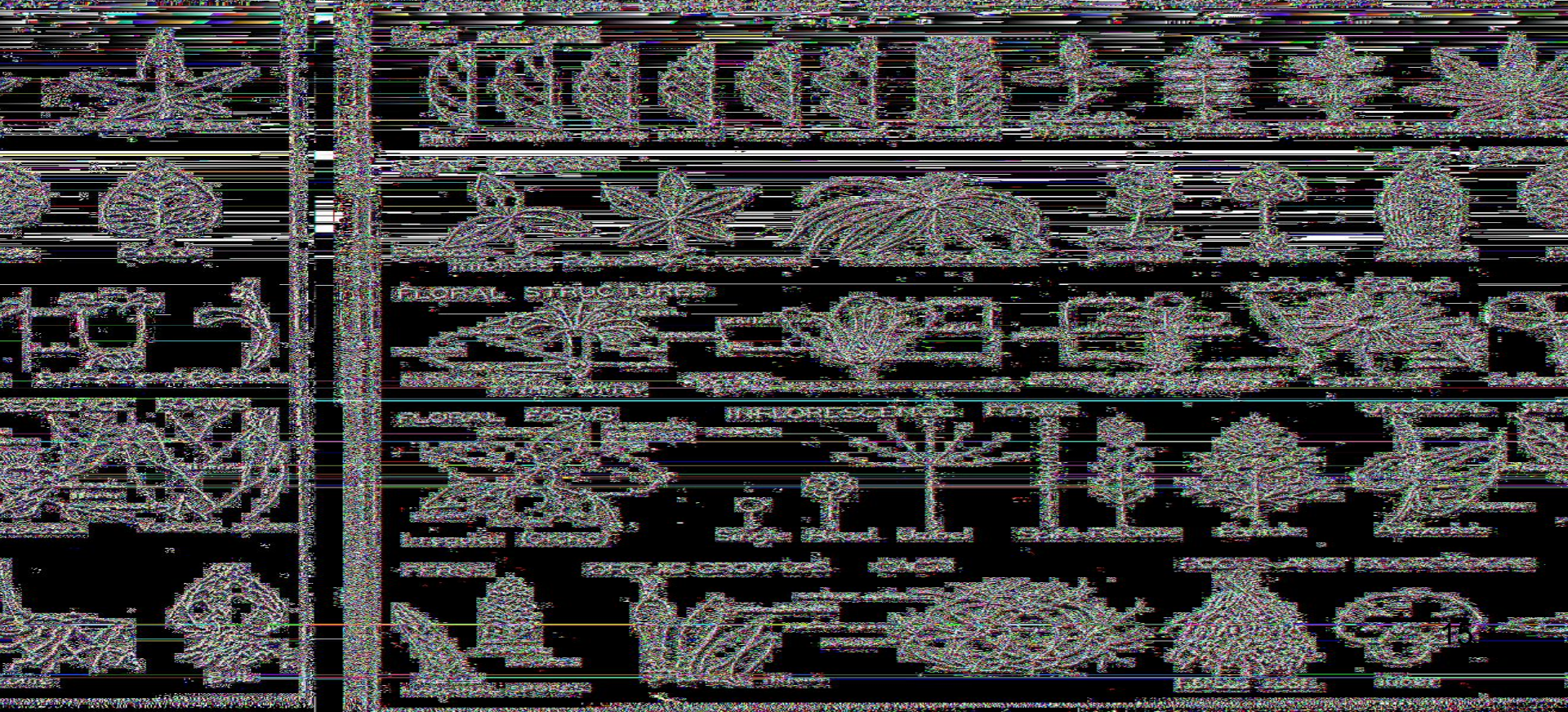
LEAF ARRANGEMENT



LEAF BASES



LEAF ATTACHMENT



- Needle

Long slender and rigid,
e.g. *pin*es, *Aruacarias*,
Abies, *Tmarix aphylla*,
Casuarina.



- Linear

Narrow and flat, margins
parallel,

e.g. *Nerium odorum*,
Terminalia arjuna,
Saraca indica



- **Oblong**

Much longer than broad,
with parallel sides, e.g.

Ficus elastica,
Callistemon sp, *Plumeria
obtusa*.



- **Elliptical**

Oblong, with widest point
at center,

e.g. *Eugenia jambolana*,
Alstonia scholars



- **Ovate**

Broadest near base, tapering upward,

e.g. *Ficus altissima*,
Ligustrum lucidum.



- **Obvate**

Inverted ovate, the broad end upward,

e.g. *Mimosope elegni*, *Ficus benjamina*.

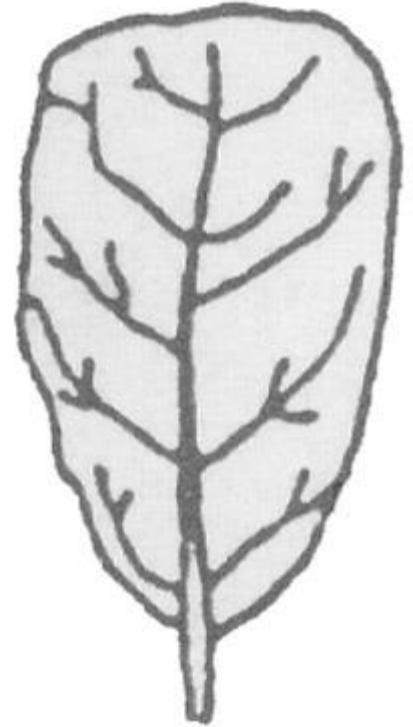


- Lanceolate

Lance shaped, tapering towards the tip, e.g. *Mangifera indica*, *Putranjiva rozburghii*

- Oblanceolate

Broad end near tip, long tapering towards base, e.g. *Lagerstromia frosregini*, *Ficus infectoria*.



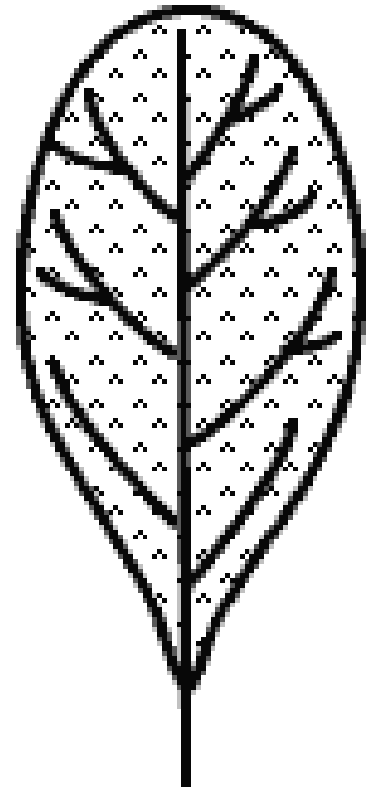
- **Spatulate**

Oblong, broadly rounded at tip but tapering to narrow base, e.g. *Dodonaea viscosa*

- **Arbicular**

Leaf with circular outline, e.g.

Pterospermum acerifolium.



- **Rhomboidal**

Irregularly slanting rectangle, e.g. *Terminalia catappa*



- **Deltoid**

A leaf round base triangular e.g. *Sepium sabeferum*, *Ficus religiosa*, *Dilbergia sisoo*



- **Reniform**

Kidney shaped leaf e.g. *Bouhinia alba*, *Butea frandosa*, *Cordia myxa*, *pleargonium*.

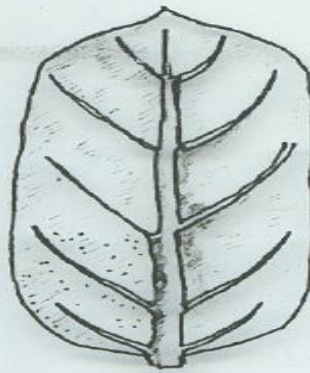




NEEDLE



LINEAR



OBLONG



ELLIPTIC



OVATE



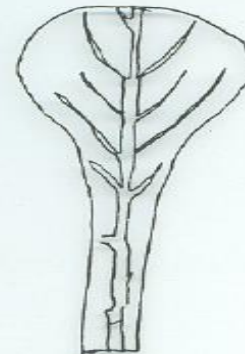
OBOVATE



LANCEOLATE

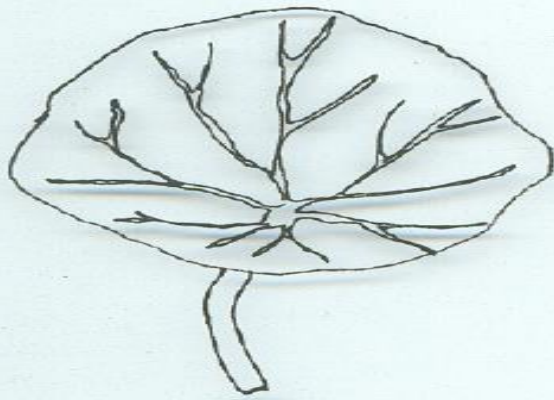


OBLANCEOLATE

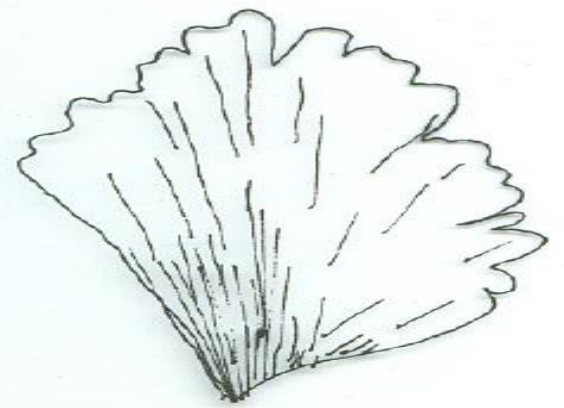


SPATULATE

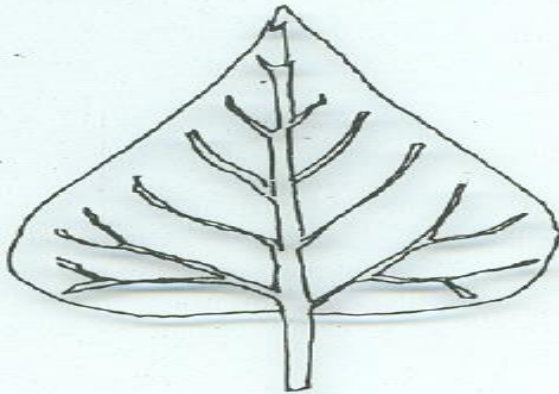
FIG. 8
LEAF SHAPES



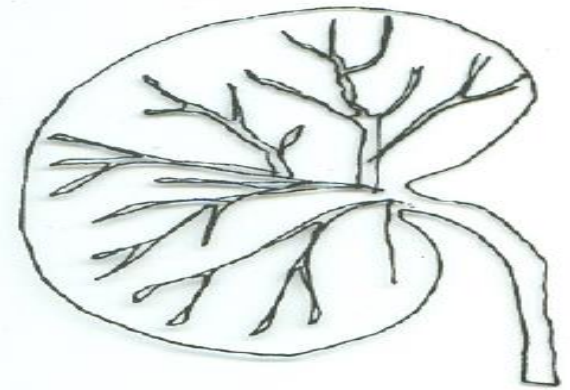
ORBICULAR



RHOMBADAL



DELTOID



RENIFORM

FIG. 8
LEAF SHAPES