

IDENTIFYING LEAF AND FRUITING BUDS

ON COMMON FRUIT TREES

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The almond

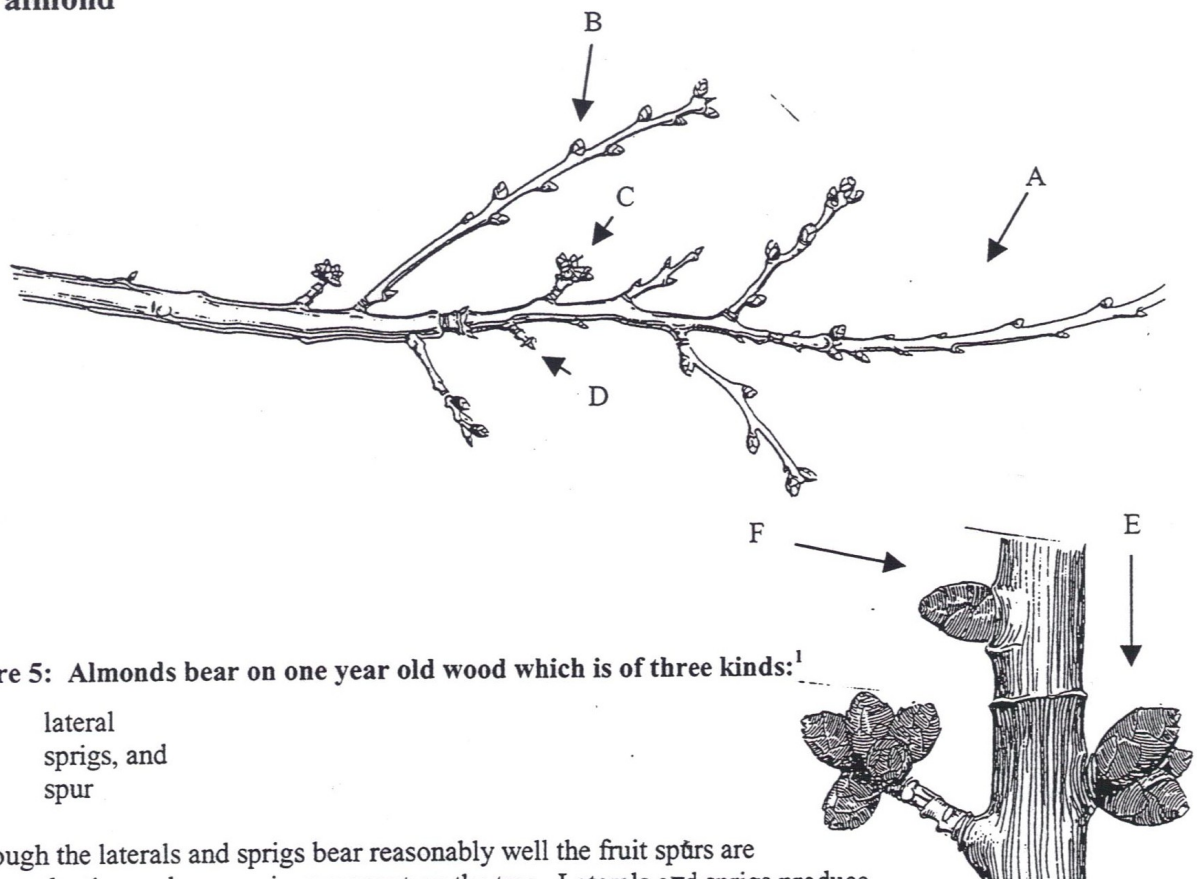


Figure 5: Almonds bear on one year old wood which is of three kinds:¹

- A lateral
- B sprigs, and
- C spur

Although the laterals and sprigs bear reasonably well the fruit spurs are most productive and are semi-permanent on the tree. Laterals and sprigs produce an abundance of spurs which reproduce themselves. Wood spurs give rise mainly to fruit spurs in a well balanced tree but they can also give rise to new laterals, sprigs or wood spurs.

D is a wood spur, E is a fruit bud and F is a wood or leaf bud.

The peach

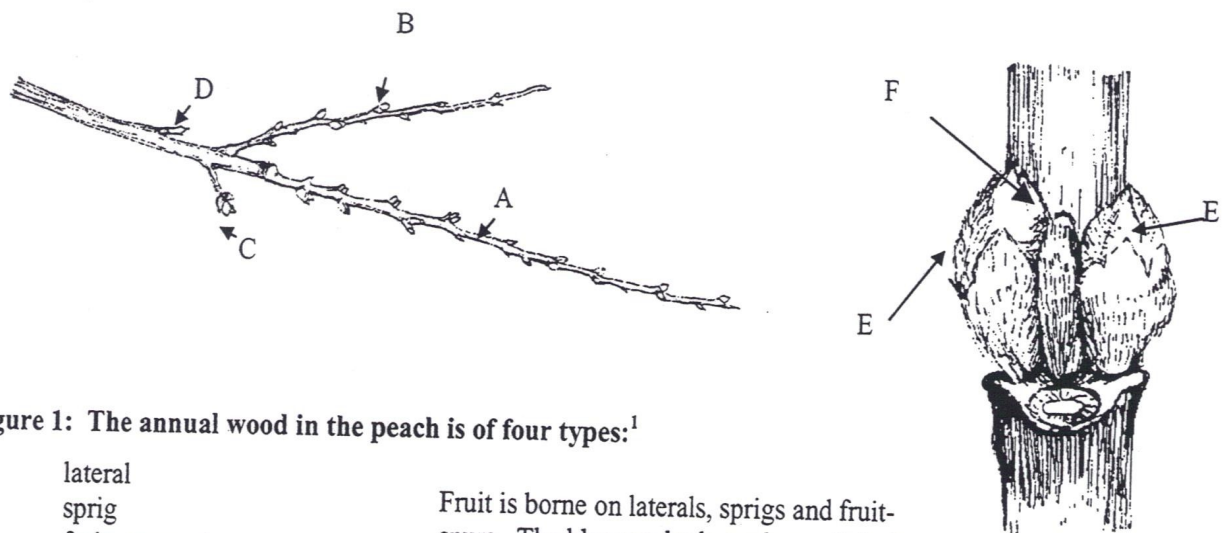


Figure 1: The annual wood in the peach is of four types:¹

- A lateral
- B sprig
- C fruit-spur and
- D wood-spur
- E fruit bud
- F wood or leaf bud

Fruit is borne on laterals, sprigs and fruit-spurs. The blossom buds are large, light in colour, and furry compared with the wood of leaf buds which are small, pointed, and darker in colour.

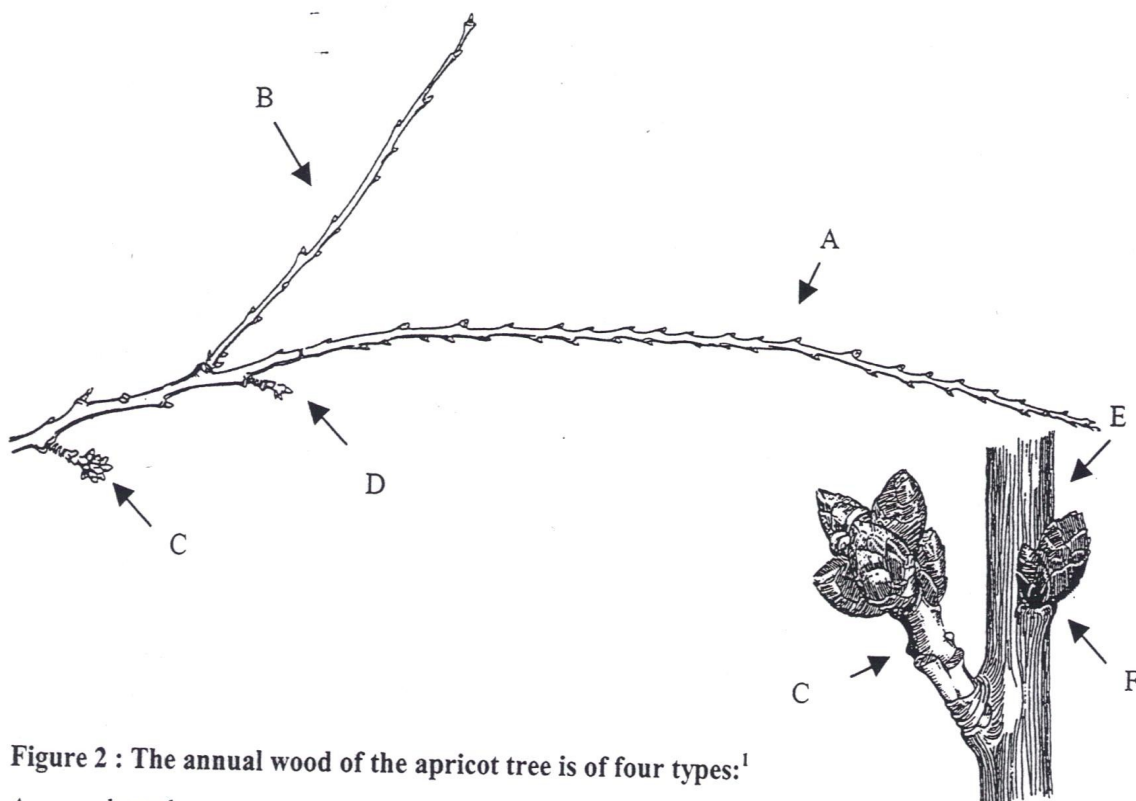


Figure 2 : The annual wood of the apricot tree is of four types:¹

- A lateral
- B sprig
- C fruit spur and
- D wood spur

Fruit is borne on laterals, sprigs and fruit spurs. The blossom buds are plump and well bodied compared with the wood or leaf buds which are small and pointed. E is a fruit bud, F is a wood or leaf bud.

The apple

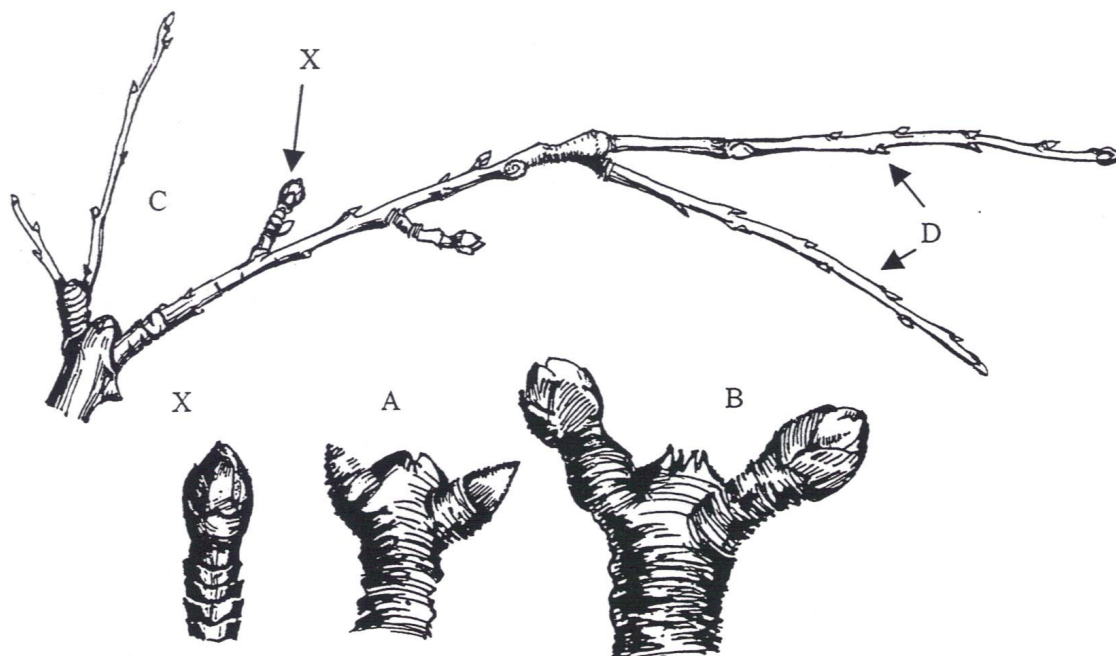


Figure 6: The annual wood in the apple is of four types: laterals, sprigs, fruit spurs and wood spurs.¹ A fruit bud (X) gives rise to fruit, and while the fruit is maturing, the short stem or bourse bearing it, gives rise to:¹

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| A | one or two wood buds | B | one or two fruit buds |
| C | one or two sprigs | D | one or two laterals |

or any combination of two of the four types.

Pears

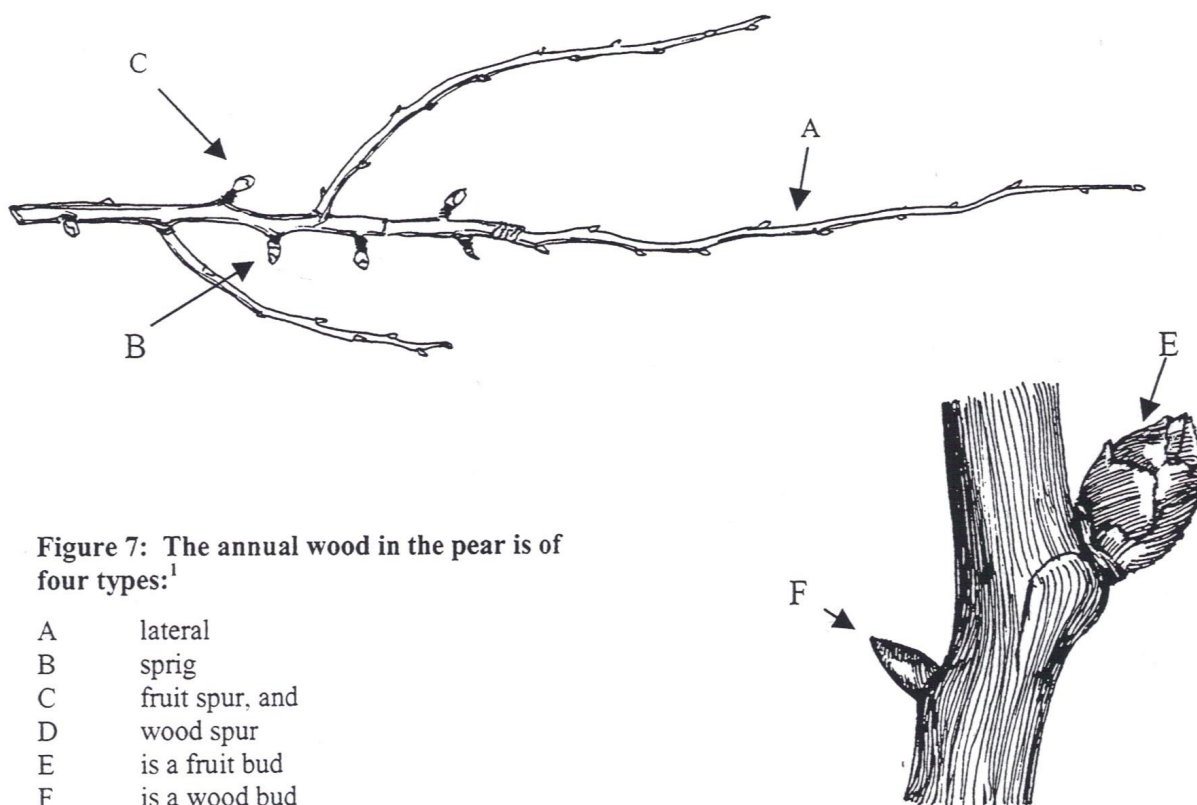


Figure 7: The annual wood in the pear is of four types:¹

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| A | lateral |
| B | sprig |
| C | fruit spur, and |
| D | wood spur |
| E | is a fruit bud |
| F | is a wood bud |

The Japanese plum

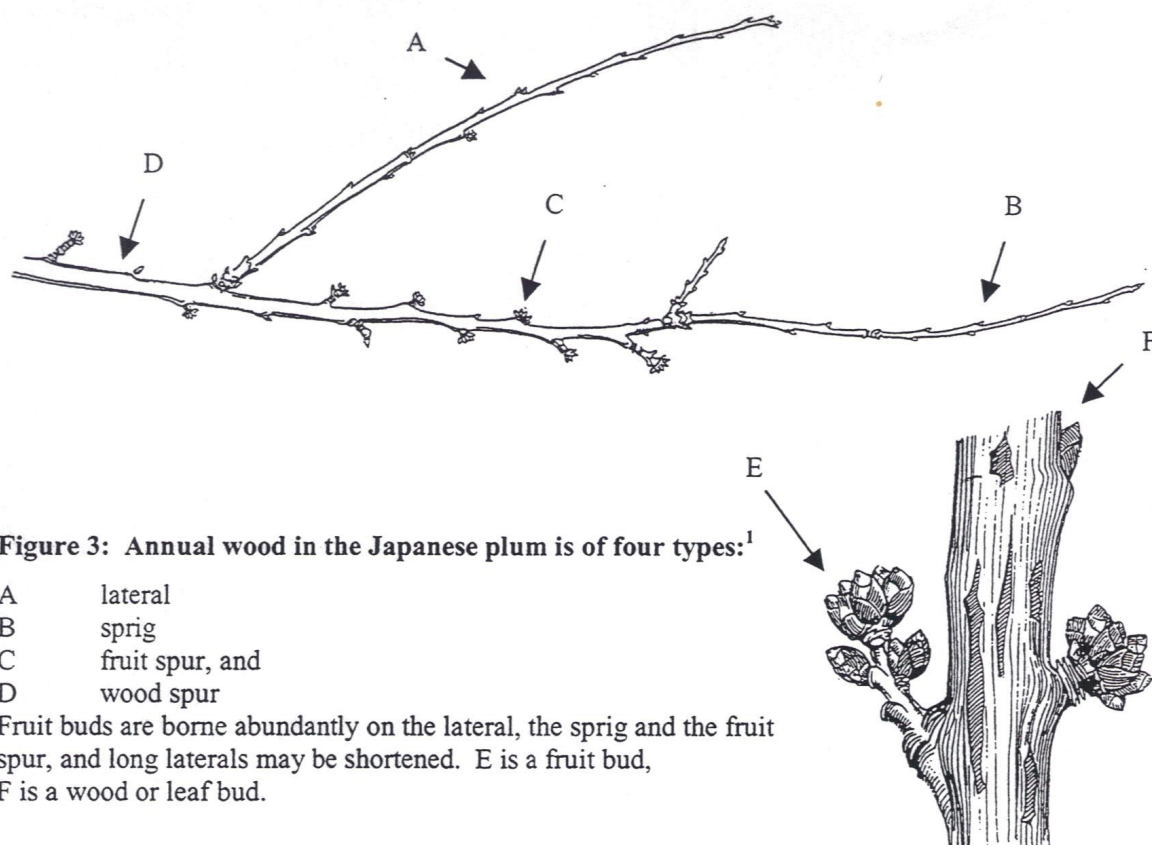


Figure 3: Annual wood in the Japanese plum is of four types:¹

- A lateral
- B sprig
- C fruit spur, and
- D wood spur

Fruit buds are borne abundantly on the lateral, the sprig and the fruit spur, and long laterals may be shortened. E is a fruit bud, F is a wood or leaf bud.

The European plum and prune

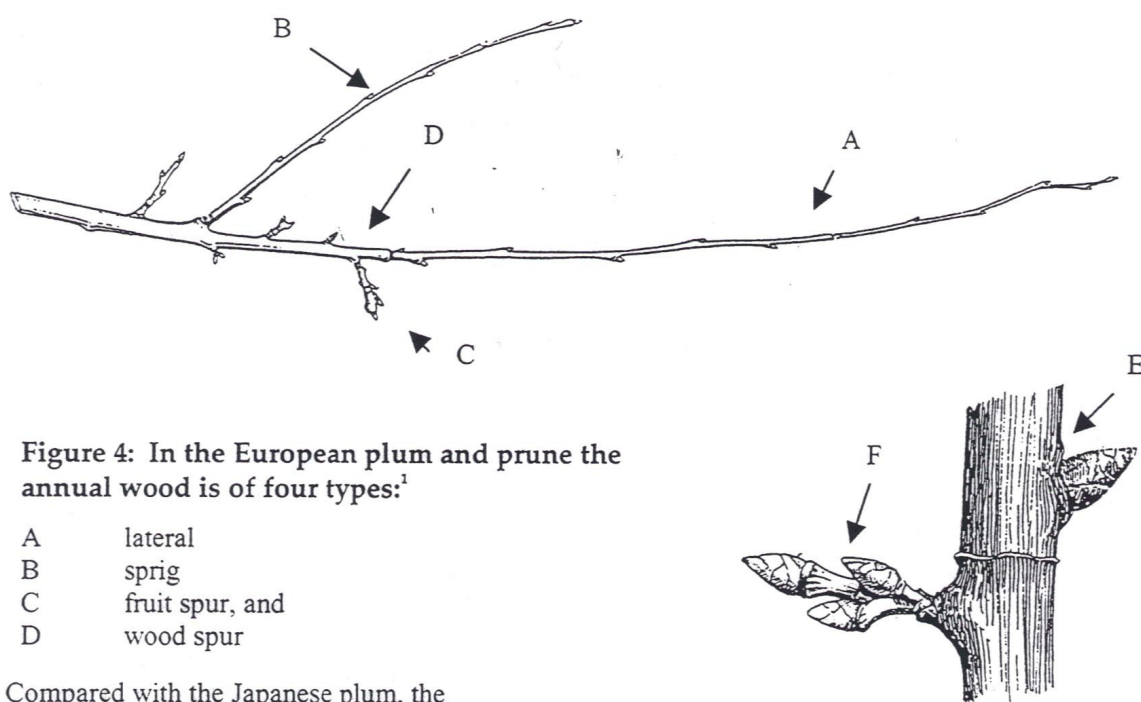


Figure 4: In the European plum and prune the annual wood is of four types:¹

- A lateral
- B sprig
- C fruit spur, and
- D wood spur

Compared with the Japanese plum, the laterals and sprigs of the European plum are much less fruitful and fruit is borne mainly on the fruit spurs. E is a fruit bud, F is a wood or leaf bud.