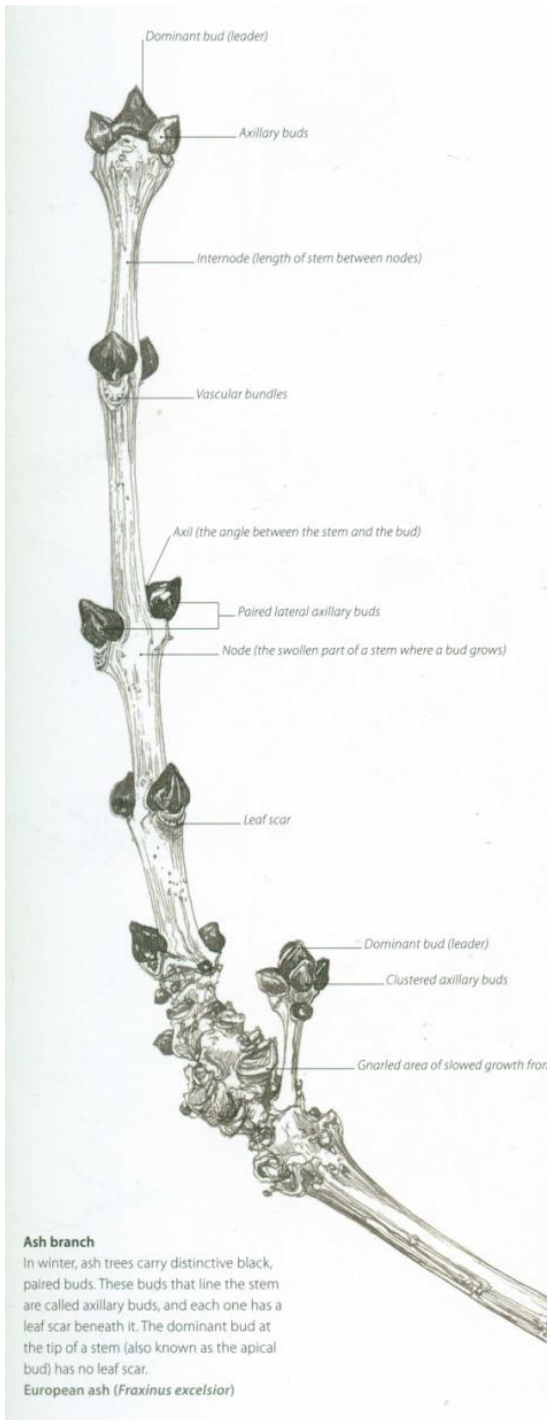


Of Nodes and Petioles and Veins



A quick follow-up on Melissa Islam's presentation for NCalSBA on what a botanist looks for in a botanical painting.

Look at three or more small branches with leaves in your garden and compare:

❖ **Nodes**-swollen part of the stem where buds form

- How does the petiole attach to the stem
- Length of the **petiole**- the part of the leaf that attaches to the stem.

❖ **Leaf blade (entire surface area of a leaf)**

- Length
- Width
- Margin
- Surface
- Venation- how the veins are laid out on the

leaf

- Where do they end?
- Are they opposite each other?

❖ **Internodes**- parts of the stem between nodes

- Regular or irregular
- Shorter near the tip?

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“It is wonderful to draw what you see. It is even better to know what to see.” ... Dick Rauh,
The Science Behind Flowers