



Vegetative differences between  
*Salix bebbiana* & *Salix scouleriana*

Nan Werdin-Pfisterer





# Salicaceae

- Woody shrubs and trees
- Leaves deciduous, simple and alternate
- Plants dioecious (separate ♂ & ♀ plants)
- Catkin inflorescence (pistillate & staminate)
- Flowers without petals
- Fruit a capsule
- Comose seeds



***Salix bebbiana* Sarg.**

“Bebb willow”

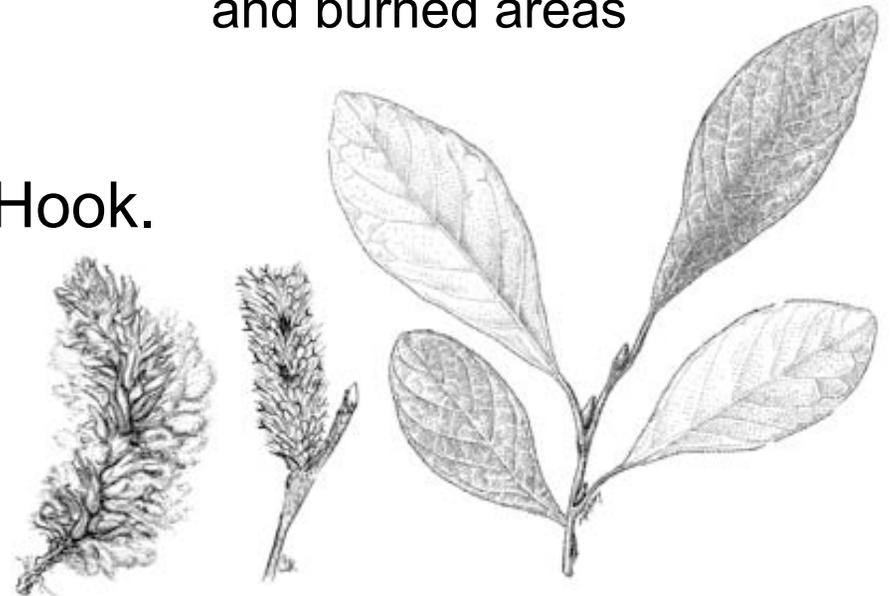
Most common upland willow in interior Alaska

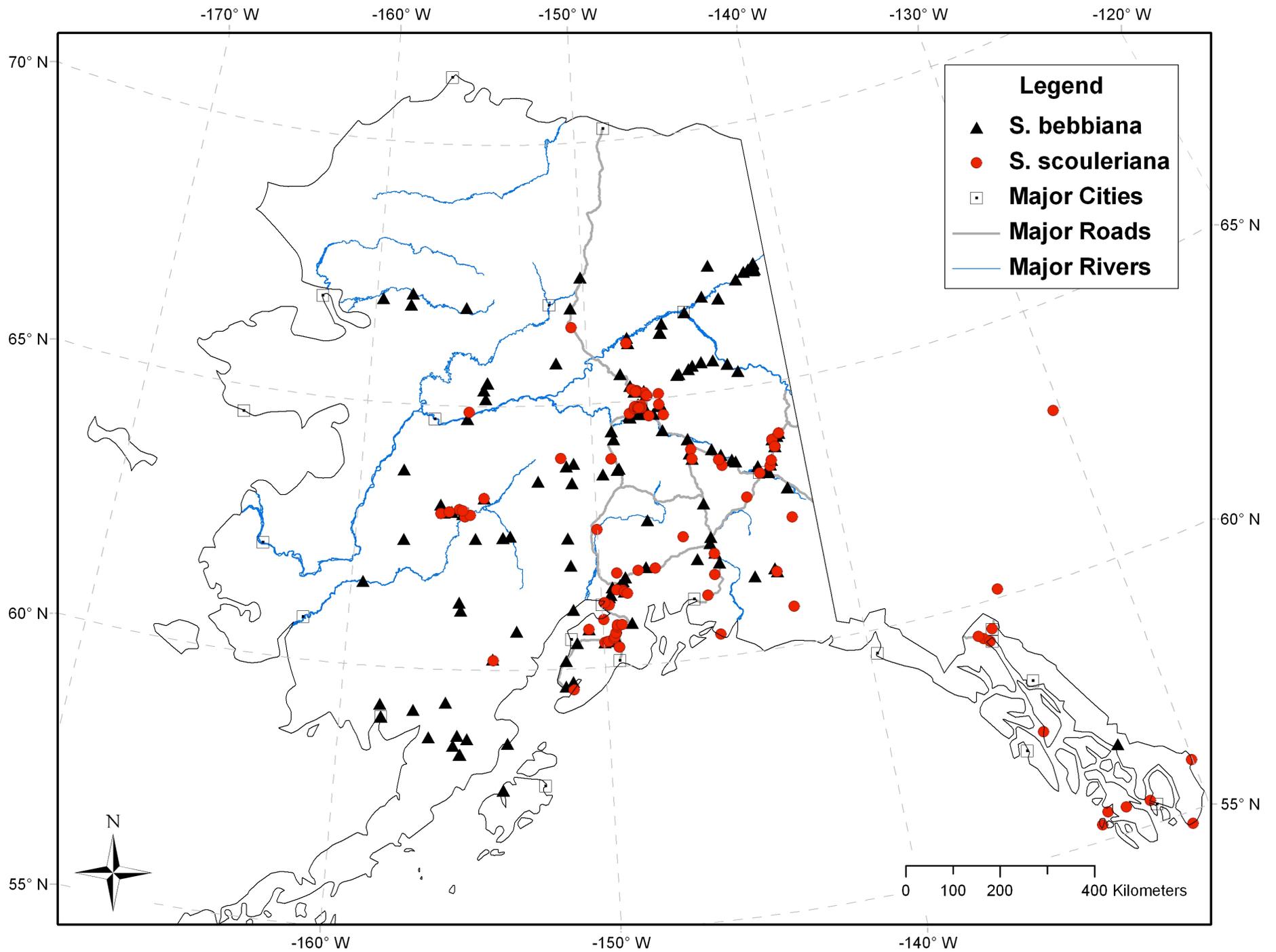
**Habitat:** most forest types, common along streams, roadsides, logged and burned areas

***Salix scouleriana* Barratt ex Hook.**

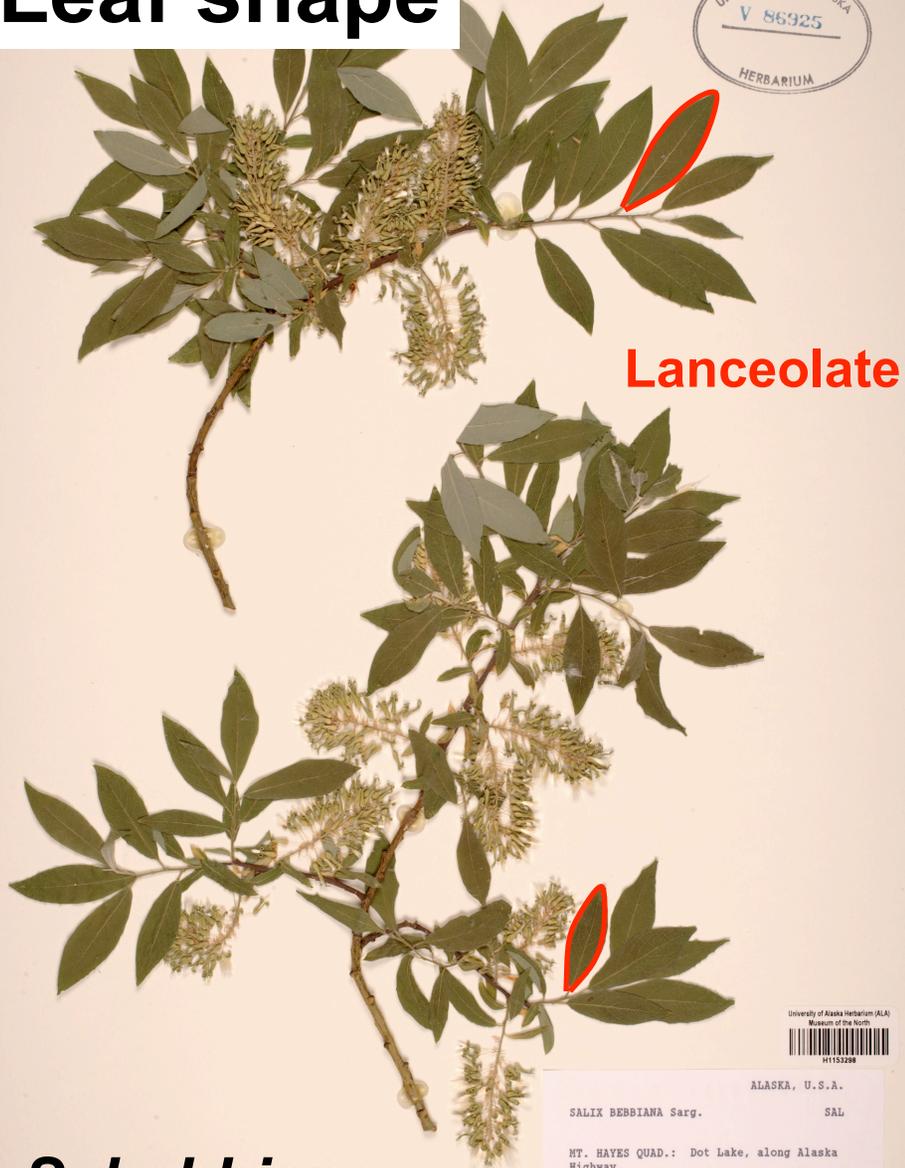
“Scouler willow”

Most common willow of southcentral & southeast Alaska





# Leaf shape



Lanceolate

*S. bebbiana*

ALASKA, U.S.A.  
SALIX BEBBIANA Sarg. SAL  
MT. HAYES QUAD.: Dot Lake, along Alaska Highway.  
63°39'N, 144°04'W. 600m  
R. Lee 86 - 27 18 June 1986  
University of Alaska Herbarium, Fairbanks (ALA)

V86925



Oblanceolate

*S. scouleriana*

University of Alaska Herbarium (ALA)  
Museum of the North  
H119377a  
ANNOTATION LABEL Indexed  
Salix scouleriana Barr.  
George W. Argus Date 1967  
FLORA OF ALASKA  
Ivengood Quadrangle  
No. 1196 SALIX SCOULERIANA Barratt  
Ivengood Road, vicinity of Wickersham Dome, mi. 26 from  
Lat. 65°15' N, Long. 146°10' W., elev. junction with  
Dwarf birch-alder-willow community, Steese Highway.  
low scrub, shrub 6 feet tall.  
George W. Argus 24 Aug. 1957

V06935

# Upper leaves

## *S. bebbiana*

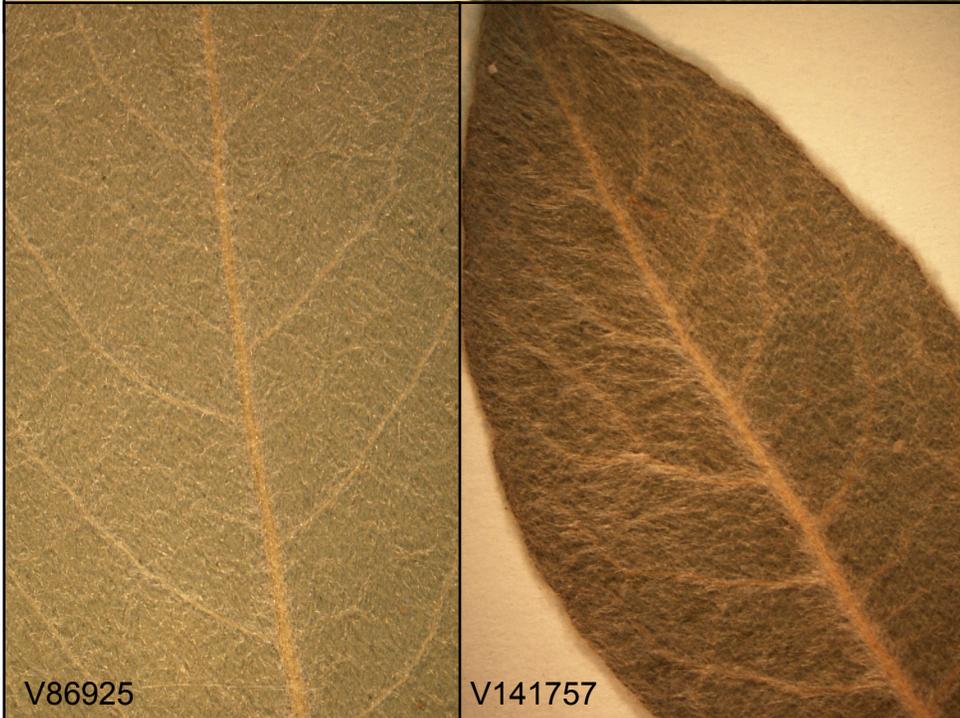
- Moderately densely pubescent, short-silky
- Impressed veins
- Wrinkled



V86925

## *S. scouleriana*

- Nearly hairless



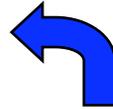
V86925

V141757



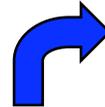
V133276

# Lower leaves



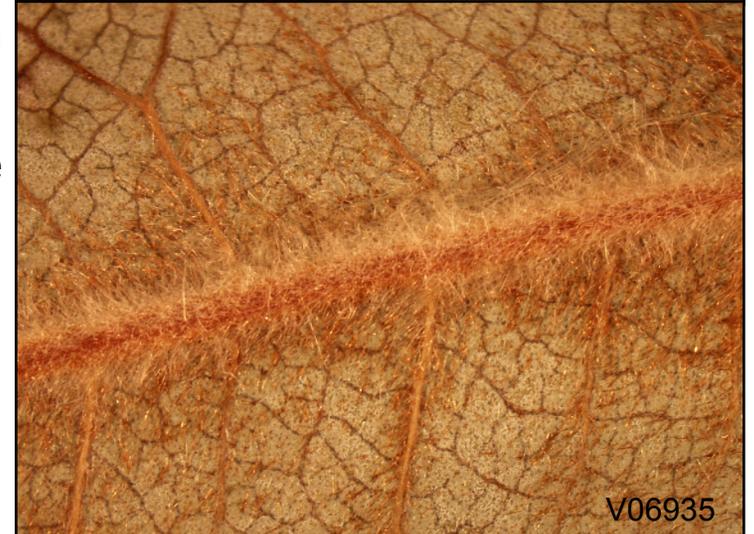
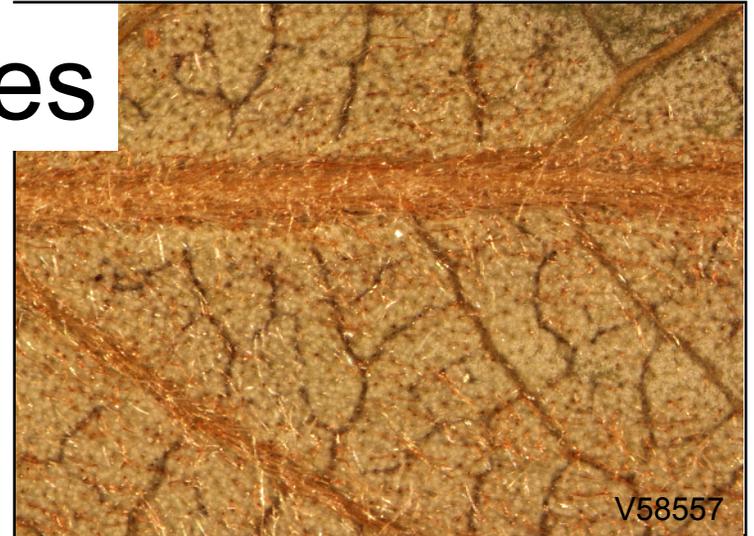
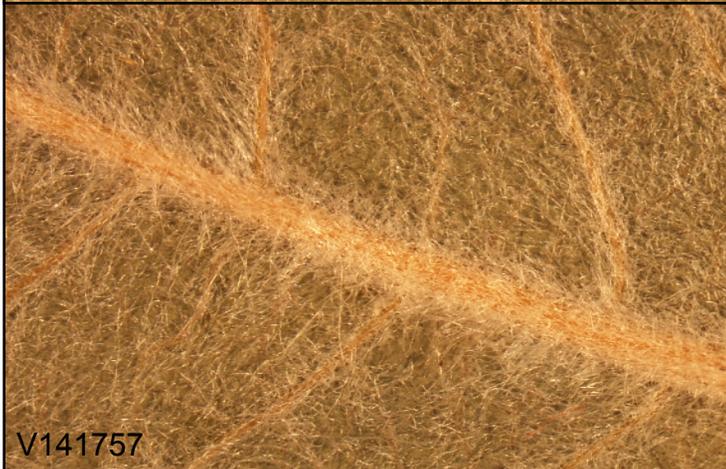
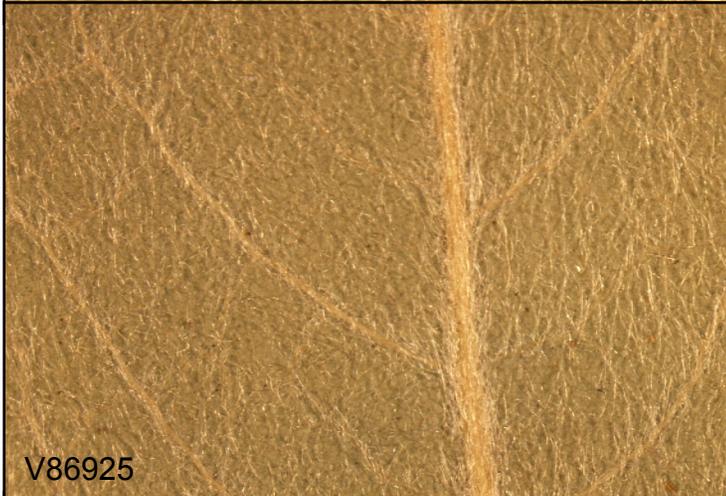
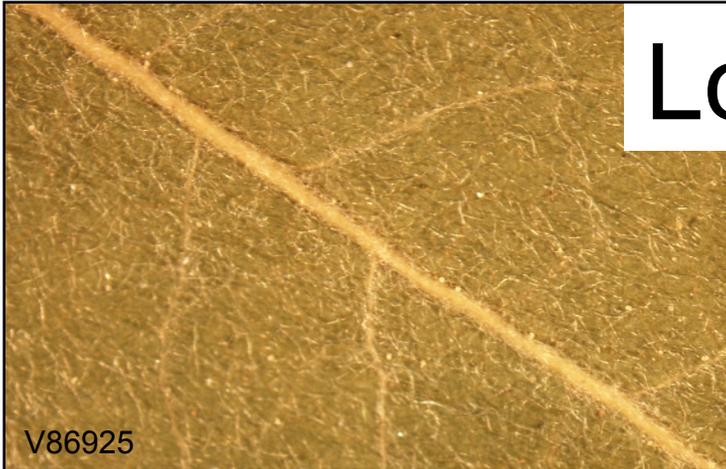
## *S. bebbiana*

- White hairs
- Long, wavy, spreading
- Less hairy with age

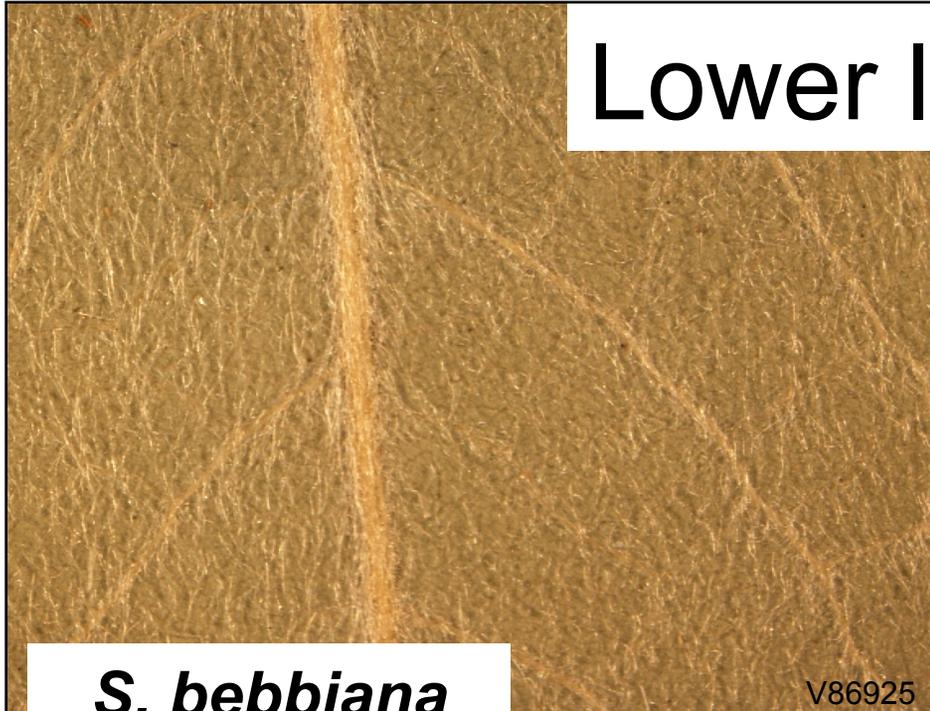


## *S. scouleriana*

- Rust colored hairs
- Stiff, straight, dense
- Young leaves with white straight or curly hairs
- Less hairy with age



# Lower leaf color



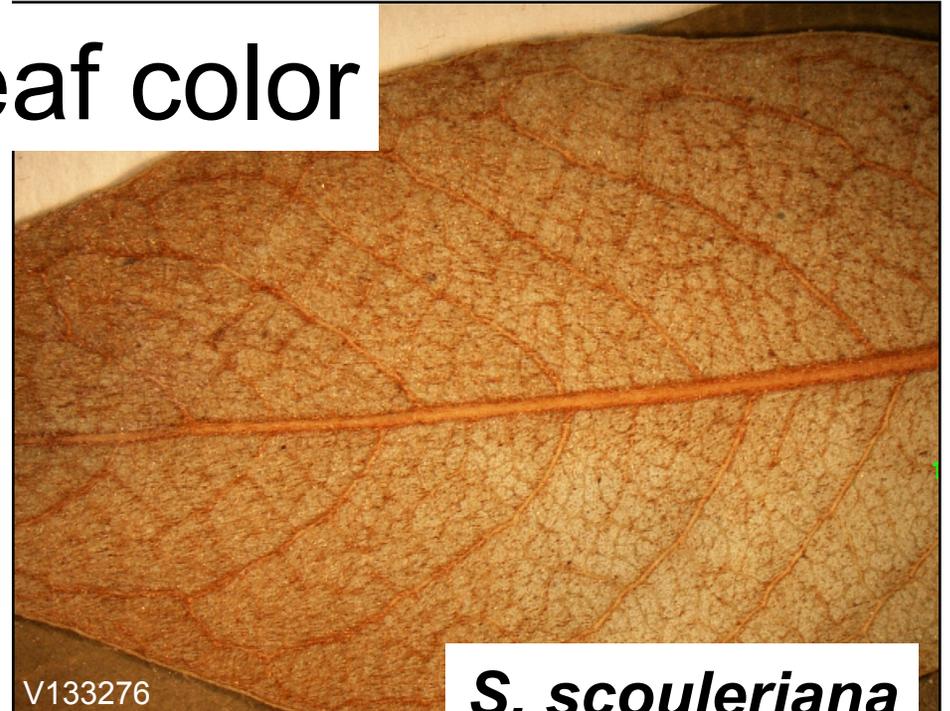
***S. bebbiana***

Gray or whitish color

V86925



V141757



V133276

***S. scouleriana***

Rusty color



H1193784  
(V120506)

# Petioles & young branches



***S. bebbiana***

Hairy—wavy, spreading white hairs



***S. scouleriana***

Velvety—dense, short, erect white hairs



# Literature Cited

- Argus, G.W. 2004. *A guide to the identification of Salix (willows) in Alaska, the Yukon Territory and adjacent regions*. Guide distributed at July 2004 workshop on willow identification, Fairbanks, AK. Merrickville, ON: self-published, 86 pp.
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