Eastern hophornbeam Ostrya virginiana (Betulaceae)



Identification: Simple, alternately arranged leaves with doubly serrate margins (the teeth are toothed!); bark of older trees is shaggy and gray-brown; fruits in distinctive catkins (see photo).

Notes: Often confused with the American hornbeam ("musclewood"), but its bark looks like sinewy, flexed muscles.

For more information about NATL plants, please visit http://natl.ifas.ufl.edu/plants.htm