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The Weird Growth on Trees

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The Weird Growth on Trees

By Eric D.

On April 12th, 2021, it was clear and there were no clouds so our class was walking down the nature trail woods behind the North Hampton School in North Hampton. During this walk, I noticed some weird form of branches growing out of the tree. I had never seen such branches and I wondered what caused them to grow in that fashion. The branches were growing very close to each other and were pointing straight up in the same way as a broom head. I had seen two trees that had this condition, with one of them only on one branch and the other tree having many of these bunches growing out some branches and from the bottom of the tree.



These branches could be epicormic sprouts, and probably not parasitic plants as they grow directly out of the branch. These branches form after a tree has undergone stress, and they are similar in appearance to what I saw (1992-Richard M. Godman). These sprouts can form due to branch damage, fires, the amount of sunlight, root damage, and some other reasons. They grow in that fashion because these branches are formed by dormant buds inside of the tree's branches (2006-Brian Roy Lockhart, Alexander J. Michalek, and Matthew W. Lowe). On April 20th, I went outside for a second time, and this time I observed that this type of plant always grew on the same type of bush, and that it always grew in wetlands or wet areas. I also noticed that more plants had the same condition, all in the same area. In conclusion, to identify what type of plant it is, we have to wait until the leaves of the bush have grown.

Work Cited

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