## **Hendricks Park Plant Identification Guide**



Prepared for

## City of Eugene Parks and Open Spaces Division

Prepared by

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# Acer macrophyllum, Big Leaf Maple

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Acer macrophyllum is a long-lived deciduous tree exhibiting a high degree of variation in size and form. Mature trees commonly attain heights of 50 feet to 70 feet with 1.5 feet diameter trunks. They can live 150 to 300 years or more. The root system is shallow but wide spreading. The leaves are generally 6 inches to 12 inches across and nearly as long. Leaf color is shiny dark green above but paler underneath. The leaves are palmately divided into five broad, coarsely toothed lobes. The greenish-yellow perfect or staminate flowers are arranged in a raceme at the end of twigs. The fruit is a fused, double-winged samara.



#### **Seasonal Development**

Flowering and leaf emergence occur simultaneously in late March or April. Fruit ripening generally occurs between September and October, and seed is dispersed from October through January. Leaf fall in western Oregon is mostly completed by the third week in October.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Big leaf maple occurs in the Pacific Coast region from just south of the Alaska Panhandle in British Columbia south through the western portions of Washington and Oregon to southern California.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Big leaf maple is the only commercially exported maple of the Pacific coast region.
- Native Americans used the bark for making rope and carved bowls, utensils, and canoe paddles from the wood.

#### References

US Forest Service Shrub Database, December 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/index.html

Photo from Department of Transportation, Environmental Affairs, December 2002, http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/eesc/environmental/

## Actaea rubra, Baneberry

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Actaea rubra is commonly known as baneberry because of its poisonous berries. Baneberry is most often recognized by its scarlet red berries, but it also produces snow white berries. Baneberry is a perennial herb with a thick root stock buried in the soil. It frequently grows in moist micro-sites where fire severity and frequency may be lower. While survival is better in the shade, seedlings in the sun are slightly larger and have more biomass allocated to roots.



#### **Seasonal Development**

Baneberry blooms in late May to mid-June. It is pollinated by a variety of insects. Baneberry can be self-fertile. Its seeds require a dormant period and usually take 2 years to germinate in the wild.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Baneberry grows in moist woods in the northern temperate zone of North America and Eurasia. Seedling growth is good in both sun and shade. Seedlings begin to bloom in their third year. The seeds are dispersed by birds and small mammals. Chipmunk may bury the seed.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Native Americans in Alberta and British Columbia used a weak decoction made from the roots as a stimulant in treating colds, arthritis, syphilis, rheumatism, and emaciation. They also chewed leaves and put them on boils and wounds to stimulate blood flow.
- Berries are eaten by many small mammals and birds.

#### References

US Forest Service Fire Effects Database, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/forb/actrub/.

Earl J.S. Rook, Herbaceous Plants List, November 2002, http://www.rook.org/earl/bwca/nature/herbs/.

Photo from Lynn Overtree, CalFlora Plant Database, November 2002, http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/photos/.

# Adenocaulon bicolor, Pathfinder

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Adenocaulon bicolor, commonly known as trail plant or Pathfinder, is a fibrous rooted perennial herb with a single, slender stem up to 1 meter tall. Leaves are primarily basal and long-petioled with large, thin, triangular leaf blades. The leaf surfaces are green and glabrous above and white-wooly beneath. Flower heads are small and contain 6-14 whitish disk flowers.

#### **Seasonal Development**

The flowering and fruiting period occurs in June and July.



#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Ranges from southern British Columbia to California and east to northern Idaho and northwestern Montana. Disjunct populations occur in the Black Hills of South Dakota and Wyoming and in the northern Great Lakes area. Wyoming populations are restricted to Crook County. It is found primarily on shady, north-facing lower slopes and bottoms on moist organic soils.

#### **Interesting Facts**

• It is called Pathfinder because the underside of its leaves – which can be overturned when people walk past - are highly noticeable and suggest recent human traffic.

#### References

Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, November, 2002, http://uwadmnweb.uwyo.edu/WYNDD/.

Photo from Br. Alfred Brousseau, Saint Mary's College, November 2002, http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/photos/.

# Berberis aquifolium, Tall Oregon Grape

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Berberis aquifolium is a low-growing shrub from 2 feet to 5 feet in height. The leaves are pinnately compound and divided into 5-9 spiny, dark green leaflets that are glossy on the upper surface. The flowers of Tall Oregon grape are yellow and born in erect clusters. The fruit consists of a cluster of blue berries. The rootstock and roots are more or less knotty, about an inch or less in diameter, with tough yellow wood and brownish bark.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Flowering of Tall Oregon grape occurs in April through May. The fruits of Tall Oregon grape may be harvested in late fall.



#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Tall Oregon Grape is distributed from Nebraska to the Pacific Ocean, but it is especially abundant in Oregon and northern California. It grows commonly in dry open spaces at low to middle elevations.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Oregon Grape was adopted as Oregon's state flower in January 1899.
- Oregon Grape can be used to treat syphilis.

#### References

Purdue University, Center for New Crops and Plant Products. 3 December 2002. http://www.hort.purdue.edu/newcrop/Indices/index\_ab.html

# Berberis Nervosa, Dwarf Oregon Grape

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Berberis Nervosa* is a low-growing rhizomatous evergreen shrub that typically reaches 4 inches to 24 inches in height. The simple stems are ascending to erect and generally occur in loose colonies of several stems. Compound leaves are borne in terminal tufts. Leaflets occur in groups of 7 to 21. Leaflets are dark green, thick, and leathery.



#### **Seasonal Development**

Plants flower in early to late spring. Fruit ripens during July and August. Yellow flowers are borne in erect clusters or racemes up to 8 inches (21 cm) in length. The fruit is a large, dark blue, globose berry with a grayish or whitish bloom. Berries are 0.3 to 0.4 inch (8-10 mm) in diameter, occur in clusters, and contain a number of black seeds.

## Distribution/Habitat



*Dwarf Oregon-grape* occurs across a wide range of habitats in submontane to montane forests of the Pacific Northwest. It is a characteristic shrub of spruce-fir forests but also occurs in northern coastal coniferous forests and in redwood, mixed evergreen, and bottomland forests. This shrub occurs on dry to fairly moist sites but reaches its greatest abundance on warmer sites. *Dwarf Oregon-grape* is also common in the warmer Port-Orford-cedar communities. It grows well in sun or shade. It also grows well on a variety of soil types including coarse, shallow rocky soils, coarse alluvium, and glacial outwash. Soils are well drained to poorly drained.

#### **Interesting Facts**

• The berries look good, but watch out—they're poisonous!

#### References

US Forest Service Plant Database, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/berner/

Humboldt College, November 2002, http://www.humboldt.edu/~treefarm/ shrubs.html

Photo from http://www.rockisland.com/~taichi/natural/ graphics/oregongrape.htm

# Camassia leichtlinii, Camas

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Camassia leichtlinii* is a native perennial forb. Its peduncle is from 8 inches to 20 inches (20 cm - 50 cm) in height and supports a terminal raceme. The peduncle and basal leaves attach to a bulb that is up to 1.5 inches (6 cm) across. Its roots are fibrous. The fruit is a three-celled capsule with 5 to 10 seeds per flower.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Camas flowers from May to July, depending upon elevation and snow cover. Its leaves die and the seeds are dispersed from late May to August.

## Distribution/Habitat

Camas grows on sites that are moist to wet in spring but dry by late spring or summer. It is commonly found near pools, springs, and intermittent streams.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Camas is shade intolerant.
- It is found on open sites created by disturbance.
- It is most prevalent in initial and early seral communities but also occurs in later seres.

#### References

US Forest Service Plant Database, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/forb/camqua/introductory.html

Day Trails, November 2002, http://www.daytrails.com/Camas.html

Photo from http://www.mobot.org/gardeninghelp/plantfinder/photom/R370.jpg



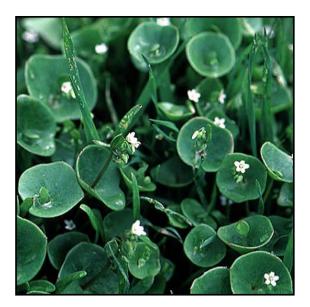
# Claytonia perfoliata, Miner's Lettuce

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Claytonia perfoliata is a native winter or spring annual. It is branched from the base with stems growing up to 14 inches tall. Leaves are mostly basal, simple, and 2.4 inches to 8.0 inches long, including the stalk. Miner's lettuce has two stem leaves that fuse to form a disc just below the flower stalk. The elongate stalk bears numerous small flowers. Fruits are tiny, three-valved capsules containing one to three seeds.

#### **Seasonal Development**

The time from germination to flowering varied from 33 to 90 days in a Columbia River Gorge population. Miner's lettuce flowers from February to May in Arizona and California. In Utah, it flowers from June to July.



#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Miner's lettuce is distributed from British Columbia south to Guatemala and east to North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Utah, and Arizona. Miner's lettuce usually occurs on moist or vernally moist sites

#### **Interesting Facts**

- The blossoms, leaves, and stems of miner's lettuce may be eaten by humans at any time during the growing season. They are eaten raw or cooked, and are a good source of vitamin C.
- Miner's lettuce is a shade tolerant species and is more prominent under a canopy than in openings, in oak savanna, or western white pine communities.

#### References

US Forest Service Shrub Database, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/index.html

Photo from University of Maryland Life Sciences, November 2002, http://www.life.umd.edu/emeritus/reveal/pbio/LnC/LnCpublic.html

# Claytonia Sibirica, Candy Flower

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Claytonia Sibirica has attractive, shiny, fleshy, spatulashaped leaves. White to pink flowers are borne on racemes for as long as there is moisture.

#### **Distribution/Habitat:**

Candy flower grows in dense shade. This native perennial can reseed to form a lovely spring-summer blooming carpet under conifers or damp, dark areas.





#### **Interesting Facts**

- Other Common name—"Western Spring Beauty"
- Candy Flower is a cousin to the Miner's lettuce.

#### References

Annie's Annuals, November 2002, http://www.anniesannuals.com

University of Maryland, November 2002, http://www.life.umd.edu/emeritus/reveal/pbio/slides8/8403b.jpg

Photo from http://www.boga.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/html/ Montia\_sibirica\_Foto.html

## Holodiscus discolor, Ocean spray

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Holodiscus discolor* is a deciduous shrub up to 3m - 4m high. Its leaves are alternate, ovate, dull green, coarsely toothed to shallowly lobed, and slightly hairy on the upper surface. The flowers are attached to large terminal panicles that may reach up to 12 inches (30 cm) in length.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Ocean spray's buds appear in early spring and it flowers in June or July. The flowers turn brown and remain drooping from the plant over winter. The seeds ripen in October. Flowers are scented and hermaphroditic (have both male and female organs) and are pollinated by insects.



#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Ocean spray is native to the United States. It occurs from

British Columbia south to California, from the west side of the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Coast, east to northeastern Oregon, in northern Idaho, and eastern and western Montana. It is dominant or subdominant throughout the Pacific Northwest. It grows in woodlands, sunny edges, dappled shade, and at low to middle elevations. It requires moist soil.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- An infusion from the seeds has been used in the treatment of smallpox, black measles, and chicken pox.
- The inner bark can be made into eyewash.

#### References

Plants for a future database search, November 2002, http://www.scs.leeds.ac.uk/pfaf/D\_search.html

USDA Forest service shrub index, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/

Holodiscus discolor, November 2002, http://www.ups.edu/faculty/kirkpatrick/fieldbotany/family\_pages/Rosaceae/holodiscus\_discolor.htm

Photo from funet database, November 2002,

http://www.funet.fi/pub/sci/bio/life/plants/magnoliophyta/magnoliophytina/magnoliopsid a/rosaceae/holodiscus/index.html

# Hydrophyllum tenuipes, Pacific waterleaf

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Hydrophyllum tenuipes*, is a rhizomatous perennial herb with a stem that can grow 20 cm-80 cm high. Both the leaves and stem have a hairy texture. The leaves are pinnately lobed or divided with pointed tips and coarse teeth edges. Sometimes they are parted with 5 to 7 leaflets. Inflorescences found at the tip of the stem are loose or in tight cymes (fiddlehead arrangement). The flowers have stamens longer than the petals, are bell-shaped, and are yellow, light purple or blue in color.



#### **Seasonal Development**

It flowers in late spring or summer.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

The waterleaf family is widely distributed in tropical and temperate regions. Hydrophyllum tenuipes is found mainly in western North America from southern British Columbia to northern California. It is distributed through the Pacific Coast and west of the Cascades. It grows in moist shady woods at low elevations.

## **Interesting Facts**

- Grazing animals eat its leaves.
- Native Americans ate the roots.

#### References

Hydrophyllaceae, 11/18/02, http://www.ups.edu/faculty/kirkpatrick/fieldbotany/family\_pages/Hydrophyllaceae/hydrophyllaceae.htm.

Paul Slichter Pacific waterleaf, 11/18/02, http://ghs.gresham.k12.or.us/science/ps/nature/gorge/5petal/water/h2oleaf.htm

Pacific waterleaf, 11/18/02, http://www.boskydellnatives.com/description\_page\Hydrophyllum\_tenuipes.htm

Photo from Allyn Weaks, 11/18/02, http://tardigrade.org/natives/photogallery/page5.html

# Smilacina racemosa, Western Solomon's Seal

## **General Botanical Characteristics**

Smilacina racemosa is a tall herbaceous perennial plant growing from thick, whitish, branching rhizomes. It is often found in dense clusters. The leafy, arching stems grow to about 3' tall. The

leaves are smooth-edged, broad and elliptical, and are borne alternately along the stem in two rows. They are distinctly parallel-veined. The flowers are small and densely clustered, white, and strongly perfumed. The berries are small (5mm-7 mm diameter) and densely clustered. They are bright red when ripe.



#### **Seasonal Development**

Western Solon's Seal produces berries from July to August.



### **Distribution/Habitat**

Western Solomon's Seal generally is an indicator of moist environments. It also occurs on rocky, well-drained hillsides. It is common in thickets and open forests on gently sloping benches adjacent to streams. Soils are usually shallow and derived from calcareous and non-calcareous parent materials. Soil texture ranges from gravelly loams to silt and sandy loams.

## **Interesting Facts**

• Native people ate the berries and the rhizomes

#### References

http://www.ionxchange.com/order\_pages/wildflowers/s/smilacina\_racemosa.htm

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/environment/eao/culres/ethbot/q-s/Smilacina.htm

#### Photos from:

http://www.usi.edu/science/biology/TwinSwamps/Smilacina\_racemosa.htm http://ghs.gresham.k12.or.us/science/ps/nature/plants/3petal/lily/fss.htm

## Maianthemum stellatum, Star-flowered Solomon's Seal

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Maianthemum stellatum* is an herb species from 8 inches to 24 inches tall. Stems are found erect with alternating leaves. The flowers at the end of the stem are white, and have 5 - 10 petals. One large root grows straight downward from the stem of the Star-flowered Solomon's Seal with many small roots that run in all directions from the rhizome.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Shoots of Star-flowered Solomon's Seal generally appear in late April, and flowering occurs from late May through early June.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

The Star-flowered Solomon's Seal is distributed throughout the United States from Alaska to California, south to Colorado, Nevada, and Arizona, east to the New England states, and south through



the Carolinas. Generally an indicator of moist environments, it also occurs on rocky, welldrained hillsides. It is common in thickets and open forests on gently sloping benches adjacent to streams.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- The Nuxalk Indians of British Columbia collected the ripe berries from July to August for food.
- This species is moderately resistant to fire. Fire will consume above ground parts, sparing the rhizome, which will sprout new species.

#### References

The Swanson Party, BWCA Homepage, Earl J.S. book, 3 December 2002, http://www.rook.org/earl/bwca/

Texas A&M Bioinformatics, December 2002, http://www.csdl.tamu.edu/FLORA/gallery.htm

# Oemleria cerasiformis, Osoberry

### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Oemleria cerasiformis* is a deciduous shrub or small tree and grows between 5 feet and 10 feet high. Its leaves are alternate, light green, and grow 2 inches to 5 inches long. Its flowers are separate for male and female plants. Both male and female flowers have white petals. Male species flower with 15 stamen while female species flowers with 5 carpels. The 1 to 5 fruits per flower are bean shaped and orange to yellow colored when young and blue to black when mature.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Osoberry is often one of the earliest understory shrubs to flower in March and continues throughout April.



### **Distribution/Habitat**

*Oemleria cerasiformis* is distributed in British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest. In Washington and Oregon it can be found from the coast to the west slope of the Cascades. It commonly grows in dry to moist, open woods, stream banks, open areas, and coastal plains at low elevations.



#### **Interesting Facts**

- Native Americans made a bark tea from the Osoberry as a purgative and tonic.
- In flowering season, its fruits are quickly eaten by birds and the seeds of Osoberry are spread by birds as well.



## References

Washington State Department of Transportation, Environmental Affairs, December 2002, http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/eesc/environmental/

Dendrology at Virginia Tech, December 2002, http://www.cnr.vt.edu/dendro/dendrology/fall/biglist\_frame.htm

# Osmorhiza chilensis, Sweet Cicely

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Osmorhiza chilensis, is a perennial herb with an erect stem usually 25 cm -100cm high. It is branched on the top portion of the plant. Leaves branch out from a point into 3 parts and further divide into 3 leaflets. They are coarsely toothed with several long stalked basal leaves. Flowers are small and greenish white and organized in loose umbrels.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Flowers are scented and are pollinated by insects.



#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Native to the U.S., Sweet Cicely occurs mostly in the West and in the northern states stretching from the East to the West. It grows at low and middle elevations in open mixed or coniferous forests, forests edges, and thickets.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- The roots are sweet and often licorice flavored.
- It can be used in teas, stews, or soups.

#### References

BC biodiversity carrot family, November 2002, http://www.bcbiodiversity.homestead.com/carrot.html

Backcountry ranger's edible Sierra Nevada plants, November 2002, http://www.backcountryrangers.com/edibles/plants\_soloframe.html?OSMORHIZA.html

USDA plants database, November 2002, http://plants.usda.gov/cgi\_bin/plant\_profile.cgi?symbol=OSBE - synonyms

Photo from Richard W. Wright, November 2002, http://www.rockisland.com/~taichi/natural/graphics/sweetcicley.html

# Philadelphus lewisii, Mock Orange

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Philadelphus lewisii* is a native, deciduous, erect to spreading shrub that grows 3 feet to 10 feet (1m -3 m) tall. The showy flowers occur in clusters of three to fifteen.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Lewis' mock orange buds tend to open in early April and leaf April through May. Flowering occurs from May through July. Fruit matures in late summer and seeds are dispersed in September or October. Leaves fall in late September through November.



#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Lewis' mock orange occurs in the northwestern United States and southern Canada. It occurs from extreme southern British Columbia south to California, and east to central Idaho, western Montana, and southwestern Alberta. Philadelphus lewisii ssp. Californicus occurs from the southern Cascade Range of southwestern Oregon south through the Sierra Nevada to Tulare County, California.

Lewis' mock orange commonly occurs in open coniferous forests and at forest edges and in douglas-fir forests on the western slope of the Cascade Range in Oregon. It is usually associated with other shrubs like ocean spray, baldhip rose, and bearberry.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Native Americans used the strong, hard branches of Lewis' mock orange for bows, arrows, combs, tobacco pipes, cradles, and netting shuttles.
- Lewis' mock orange is the Idaho state flower. It is illegal to collect Lewis' mock orange in Idaho for export or sale.

#### References

US Forest Service Fire Effects Plant Database, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/philew/index.html.

Photo from Br. Alfred Brousseau, Saint Mary's College, November 2002, http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/photos/.

# Polystichum munitum, Sword Fern

### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Polystichum munitum is a large, evergreen, long-lived fern with fronds from 20 to 72 inches (50 cm-180 cm) long. They are divided pinnately. Individual fronds live for several years and remain attached to the rhizome after withering. The largest leaflets are 1.2 to 16 inches long (3 cm -15 cm). Spores are born in clusters called sori that are found between the midline and the edge of the middle and upper leaflets.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Fronds unroll by late May. Spores are near maturity by late July





#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Sword Fern can be found growing in shade or in small openings within moist coniferous forests.

### **Interesting Facts**

- Western sword fern frequently indicates productive, moist forest habitat types. It may also indicate deep soils.
- Western sword fern is an indicator of high quality sites for black cottonwood (Populus trichocarpa) and Douglas-fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii).

## References

http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/fern/polmun/

http://www.clunet.edu/wf/nca/ flowers/fwr-200.htm

Photo from http://bss.sfsu.edu/.../courses/Fall00Projects

# Prosartes (Disporum) hookeri, Hooker's fairy bells

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Disporum hookeri*, is a rhizomatous perennial herb that has a single upright stem. It can grow up to 2 feet high. The upper portion splits in a fork-like manner. Commonly, two creamy-white, narrow, and bell-shaped flowers hang from the tip of the branch. Flowers have six petal-like segments. Leaves have parallel veins and a dull hairy upper surface. The fruits are 4-6 eggshaped, drooping berries.



#### **Seasonal Development**

Flowers from May to July. Berries turn red in late summer to fall.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

In the Pacific Northwest, it is commonly found in moist wooded areas near streams. It grows in moist coniferous or mixed forests at low elevations. It is common in the western United States, extending from central Oregon's Coast Range and the Cascades to the north, through Washington and British Columbia, and to northwestern Montana and northeastern Oregon avoiding the dry Columbia River Basin.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Other common names include: "Drops of Gold", and "Oregon's Fairy Bells".
- It is considered to be an endangered species in the state of Michigan.

#### References

USDA Forest Service, Eastern Region, Fairy-Bells-CA.pdf, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/wildlife/tes/ca-overview/docs/Fairy-Bells-CA.pdf

Photo from William Ashworth, November 2002, http://id.mind.net/~ashworth/Dscn0562.jpg

## Prunus emarginata, Bitter Cherry

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Prunus emarginata is a shrub or small tree that grows up to 25 feet tall. Its bark is reddish-brown or gray, with horizontal rows of raised pores (lenticels). The alternate leaves are deciduous, oblong to oval, 3" long, finely toothed, and rounded at the tip. There are generally 1-2 small glands at the base of the leaf blade. Bitter Cherry has 5 sepals and 5 white petals, numerous stamens (20), 1 pistil, and 2 ovules.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Bitter Cherry flowers are fragrant and bloom in April to May. It produces a bright red pea-sized fruit.



#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Bitter Cherry likes to grow in moist disturbed areas. Bitter cherry prefers open sandy or gravelly sites and stream banks.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- The fruits are edible, though disagreeable in flavor. They are best used in jams.
- The bark can be peeled from the tree and polished to a rich red.
- Strips of the bark have been woven into baskets.

#### References

Washing State Department of Transportation, November 2002, http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/eesc/environmental/programs/culres/ethbot/m-p/PrunusE.htm

Photo from http://waynesword.palomar.edu/images/cherry4b.gif

## Ribes sanguineum, Red Flowering Currant

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Ribes sanguineum is a twiggy deciduous shrub less than 4 meters high. Leaves are irregularly toothed and finely serrate with blade 2 cm to 7 cm. It has bright to pale pink flowers that droop in luscious bunches. Each flower has a short tube at its mouth with five sepals and five reduced sepals spreading out.

#### **Seasonal Development**

It blooms upright from mid-February through early May. Blackish berries appear late spring and summer.



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#### **Distribution/Habitat**

It grows in open to wooded areas (full sun to part shade), moist to dry valleys (good drainage to drought tolerant), and lower mountains. It is native to the Pacific Northwest. It is distributed from the coast to the eastern side of the Cascades in Washington and northern Oregon.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Native people use them as a food plant.
- Despite their bland taste, Coast Salish people ate them fresh.
- It is also called "White Icicle" because of the white flowering form that blooms before the colored varieties.

#### References

Ketzel Levine's talking plants, November 2002, http://www.npr.org/programs/talkingplants/profiles/ribessanguineum.html

Natural history research paper, November 2002, http://rbcm1.rbcm.gov.bc.ca/nh\_papers/nativeplants/ribes.html

Photo from Central Washington native plants, November 2002, http://www.cwnp.org/photopgs/rdoc/risanguineum.html

# Rosa gymnocarpa, Baldhip Rose

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Rosa gymnocarpa is a native, long-lived, deciduous shrub generally 3 feet or less in height. The stems are slender with straight prickles. The compound leaves have 5 - 7 leaflets that are 0.5 inches to 1 inch long and 0.25 inches to 0.5 inches wide. Baldhip rose is rhizomatous and has a shallow root structure. Propagation occurs when the seeds are eaten and dispersed by birds and mammals.



#### **Seasonal Development**

Baldhip rose flowers in the late spring and

early summer. Hips appear at the end of July and remain on the plant throughout the winter

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Baldhip rose has a range extending from southern British Columbia south to the Sierra Nevada in California and east to western Montana and Idaho. It is found in both mountainous and riparian areas at elevations of 5,000 feet or less. It grows best on eastern and southern exposures.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- The hips are high in vitamin C and are also a source of calcium, phosphorous, and iron.
- The leaves were often chewed and applied to reduce pain and swelling by Native Americans and were also used to make tea.

#### References

US Forest Service Shrub Database, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/index.html

Photo from Seattle Rose Society Archives, December 2002, http://www.bmi.net/roseguy/

## Rosa nutkana var. nutkana, Nootka Rose

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Rosa nutkana* is a native, deciduous, perennial shrub 3 feet to 6 feet (0.9m -1.8m) tall. Nootka Ros*e* reaches its maximum height within 10 years. Stems and branches are unarmed to prickly.

Leaves are compound and have five to seven leaflets. The fruits contain several long, hairy achenes. Nootka Rose has rhizomes.

#### **Seasonal Development**



Nootka Rose flowers from May through July. Its fruits ripen in early fall and remain on the plant through winter.



## **Distribution/Habitat**

Nootka Rose is commonly found in moderately dry to moist climates in submontane to montane zones. It occurs on nitrogen-rich, moist soils. It frequently occurs in floodplains, open stream banks, and meadows. It is sporadic in opencanopy forests with fluctuating groundwater tables. It is occasionally found on brackish-water sites or sites exposed to ocean spray. It grows best at pH ranges of 5.6 to 7.0. It thrives on moderately fertile, well-drained clayey-loam, sandy-loam, or sandy soils.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- It attains sexual maturity at 2 years to 5 years of age.
- Good seed crops are produced about every other year.

References

http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/rosnut/

Photo from http://www.laspilitas.com/plants/pictures/a3359.jpg

Photo from http://www.nps.gov/klgo/flora/florafoto/rosa%20nutkana01.jpg

# Rubus parviflorus, Thimbleberry

## **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Rubus parviflorus*, commonly known as Thimbleberry for the small "thimble" shaped berries it produces, is a low scrambling or upright deciduous shrub ranging in height from 1 to 8 feet. They can be identified by their large green unevenly serrated leaves, which are pale underneath, and the succulent fruit that turns red to scarlet when ripe. They have adapted well to fire and reestablish after burns through seed banking and rhizome sprouting.

## **Seasonal Development**

Thimbleberry growth varies with elevation and weather conditions. It generally leafs out in mid to late Spring. However, buds may become active by late February in parts of Oregon and Washington. Leaves begin to fall in late summer to autumn. Leaf fall may be early in dry years. In Oregon, leaves shed by late August in particularly dry years.



## **Distribution/Habitat**

Thimbleberry is found from Alaska to California and into northern Mexico, and east to the Great Lakes States. It commonly grows on open, wooded hillsides, along stream banks and canyons, on borders, and roadsides. Thimbleberry typically becomes established in disturbed sites and distribution declines with succession.



## **Interesting Facts**

- The fruit was a staple for indigenous inhabitants throughout its range. The fruit was eaten fresh in summer and dried for winter use.
- The bark was boiled and made into soap, and leaves were used to make a medicinal tea.
- Leaves were powdered and applied to burns to minimize scarring.

## References

Rook, Earl. Plants of the North, November 2002, http://www.rook.org/earl/bwca/nature/shrubs/rubuspar.html

US Forest Service Shrub Database, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/

# Sambucus racemosa, Red Elderberry

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Sambucus racemosa, a deciduous shrub from 20 inches to 20 feet in height. Its leaves are large, opposite, compound with 5-9 leaflets. The stems are usually young, soft, and pithy, twigs but the wood is quite hard. The creamy white flowers are in pyramidal heads and followed by round, berry-like fruits called drupes. The fruit normally contains 2-4 seeds and is usually bright red. It propagates by seed following cold stratification.



#### **Seasonal Development**

The growing season usually begins in

early June, and flower buds begin to open from mid-June to early July. Fruits and seeds of the Red Elderberry mature between late July and mid-August.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

*Sambucus racemosa* is found across North America from Newfoundland to Alaska. It is restricted to moist, cool sites in the south, extending into California in the coastal mountains, Arizona and New Mexico in the Rockies, and Georgia and Tennessee in the Appalachian highlands. Red elderberry is not well adapted to warm climates and in the southern part of its range. There it is found in cooler uplands, swamps, and along cool drainages

## **Interesting Facts**

- Red elderberry is moderately fire resistant, re-sprouting from rhizomes or root crowns following fire.
- The hollow stems have been fashioned into flutes and blowguns.

## References

US Forest Service Shrub Database. 9 November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/index.html

Photo from Washington State Department of Transportation, Environmental Affairs. December 2002, http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/eesc/environmental/

## Sambucus mexicana, Blue Elderberry

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Blue elderberry is a short-lived, shade intolerant (or slightly tolerant) shrub or small tree, usually between 6.5 feet to 13 feet tall, but sometimes reaching 20 feet. Young twigs are soft and pithy but the wood is quite hard with grayish bark or thin, dark brown, irregularly furrowed and ridged bark. There may be a thick taproot with fibrous, spreading, lateral roots. The leaves are opposite and odd-pinnate with five to nine serrate leaflets. The flowers are white or cream colored. The fruit is edible (caution should be used before eating the fruit because poisonous varieties look similar) and blue-black with a gracious bloom that makes it appear to be powder blue.



#### **Seasonal Development**

In California Blue Elderberry blooms from June to September with fruiting in September. In Utah blooms occurs in July and August with fruiting from August to October.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Blue elderberry's range in western North America is from southern British Columbia and western Alberta to California, Arizona, and New Mexico. It extends east into western Montana, western Colorado, and Trans-Pecos Texas and south into northwest Mexico. Blue elderberry usually occurs in openings in moist forest habitats and in moist areas within drier, more open habitats. It is part of the riparian communities of the Central Valley of California and it is frequently associated with alder and quaking aspen communities.

## **Interesting Facts**

- The fruit of blue elderberry is frequently gathered for wine, jellies, candy, pies, and sauces and it is cultivated commercially in Oregon.
- Native Americans gathered the fruit to cook, dry, or to eat raw. They used a liquid made from the flowers and leaves for medicinal purposes.
- In the spring the young sprouts can be cooked and eaten. Caution should be used in eating elderberries since other species in the genus contain a cyanogenetic glycoside and an alkaloid that can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and gastrointestinal pain.

## References

Forest Service Fire Effects Plant Database, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/samcer/index.html.

Photo from CalFlora Database, November 2002, http://www.calflora.org.

# Symphoricarpos albus, Snowberry

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Symphoricarpos albus*, commonly known as Snowberry for its snow-white berries, is a deciduous shrub that is densely branched and varies in height from 3 feet to 4.5 feet. Snowberry can reach heights of 6 feet in riparian areas. They can be identified by their lobed, opposite leaves and clumps of fruit that commonly remain on the plant over winter. It propagates both by seed and rhizomes.



#### **Seasonal Development**

Snowberry begins budding in April to May and leaves become full-grown within a month of sprouting. Flowers appear any time from May to August and may be present as late as September. Peak flowering time is June and July. Fruit ripening times are also variable, but typically occur during late August and early September, coinciding closely with leaf fall.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Snowberry occurs as far north as Alaska, south to California and east to North Carolina. Common snowberry is considered subdominant with Ponderosa Pine in Oregon, and is considered subdominant to Douglas Hawthorn (*Crataegus douglasii*) and in dense tall shrub communities with Wood's Rose (*Rosa woodsii*). Some species commonly associated with Snowberry include Ocean spray (*Holodiscus discolor*) and Bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*).

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Snowberry was used on hair as soap, and the fruits and leaves mashed and applied to cuts or skin sores as a poultice and to soothe sore, runny eyes.
- The bark was used for medicinal teas, to treat tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases. A brew made from the entire plant was used as a tonic.
- The straight branches made good arrow shafts and pipe stems.

#### References

University of Connecticut Plant Database. 9 November 2002, http://www.hort.uconn.edu/plants/.

US Forest Service Shrub Database. 9 November 2002. http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/.

Photo from CalFlora Plant Database, November 2002, http://www.calflora.org.

## Tellima grandiflora, Fringe cup

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Tellima grandiflora* has leaves that cluster at the base of theplant. The leaves are maple-like, hairy, and 2-5 inches wide. It can grow to 50 cm - 80 cm with an erect stem. Flowers of small nodding cups with strap-like petals are arranged along the tall stem.

#### **Seasonal Development**

It blooms in March-June.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Fringe cup occurs in western North America. It grows in thickets and woods where sites are cool and shady with moist soil.

## **Interesting Facts**

• The flowers change color as they are pollinated. Colors can range from white to red to brown on a single plant along the stem.



#### References

Rocky garden plant database, 11/18/02, http://web.kadel.cz/flora/c/kvCard.asp?Id=4363

Saxifragaceae (Saxifrage Family), 11/18/02, http://plants.montara.com/ListPages/FamPages/Saxifraga.html

Photo from Debra Teachout-Teashon (2000), 11/18/02, http://www.rainyside.com/features/plant\_gallery/nativeplants/

# Trillium Ovatum, Western Trillium

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Trillium Ovatum*, is a perennial herb plant that can grow up to 20 cm -45 cm (8"-20"). The plant blossoms into a single large white flower with three petals, three long narrow sepals, and a three-parted stigma surrounded by six stamas. Three egg-shaped leaves are a few centimeters beneath the flower.

#### **Seasonal Development**

The flower blooms from April to May. As the flowers age (meaning after it is



pollinated), the flower changes from white to pink in color, then to purplish. The fruit is a green colored capsule with lots of seeds.

#### **Distribution / Habitat**

Western Trillium's North American range extends from southern British Columbia to central California eastward to Colorado and up to Southwest Alberta. It grows well in moist to wet woods and open areas at low to mid elevations. Partly shaded places and soils that are deep and damp are good for growth too.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- "Tri-llium" refers to the three leaves, three petals of the plant, and the Latin word "ovatum" refers to the egg-shaped leaves.
- Also known as the "wake-robin" trillium because it blooms in Spring.
- Native people of British Columbia used the root extract for eye medicine.

#### References

Natural History Research Paper, 11/11/02, http://rbcm1.rbcm.gov.bc.ca/nh\_papers/nativeplants/trilovat.html

Plantwatch Presents Western Trillium, 11/11/02, http://www.devonian.ualberta.ca/pwatch/westtr.htm#ETHNO

Photo from Dunn gardens-Trillium ovatum, 11/11/02, http://www.dunngardens.org/early\_spring/trillium\_ovatum.html

# Viola glabella, Woods Violet

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Viola glabella*, is commonly known as Stream Violet or Woods Violet. Woods Violet is a low (5cm -300 cm [2"-12"]) colony-forming perennial. Its pencil-thick, knobby green rhizomes can be found on, or just under, the surface of the soil. True roots extend from the lower surface of the rootstock and grip the soil. Its leaves swoop upwards from the end of the rootstock on 5cm-10 cm (2"-4") long petioles. Like those of many other violets, the leaf blades are kidney to heart shaped and toothed.



#### **Seasonal Development**

Woods Violet's blossoms open early in the spring before trees leaf out. A brownish capsule packed with seeds develops later. When ripe, the capsule explodes spreading the seeds away from the mother plant.

### **Distribution/Habitat**

It ranges from southern Alaska to California on both sides of the Cascades. Woods violet's natural habitat includes moist woods and especially the edges of streams. It grows abundantly in moist sub alpine environments. At mid to low elevations, the violet is particularly common where deciduous trees form a major part of the forest canopy.

#### References

CalFlora Plant Database, November 2002, http://www.calflora.org/

Photo from Gerald and Buff Corsi, California Academy of Sciences, November 2002, http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/photos/

# Geranium robertianum, Herb Robert

## **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Geranium robertianum* commonly has white glandular hairs on its stems that give it an oily and sticky feel. Often called "stinky Bob," these glandular hairs create a distinct odor. The stems fork at the nodes. At each node is a pair of longstemmed, deeply dissected leaves. Leaves become smaller as they approach the flower. The flowering stem also originates at the nodes and end in a pair of individual stalked flowers. The flowers usually have five petals. The color of the flowers can range from magenta to pink to white.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Flowering occurs early spring to late fall, and sometimes early into winter months.



#### **Distribution/Habitat**

*Geranium robertianum* is commonly found in the moist forest understory west of the Cascade Range. It can also be found on dry rocky outcrops along roadsides and in residential areas. It originally comes from forests in Europe, Asia, and North Africa.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Herb Robert has the ability to over-winter as seeds. Seeds that over-winter germinate in the spring, producing flowers and fruit later in the summer.
- Herb Robert was originally introduced as an ornamental species.

## References

Noxious Weed Board, Washington State, December 2002, http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weed\_info/contents.html

Photo from Gallery of Connecticut Wildflowers, December 2002, http://www.ct-botanical-society.org/galleries/galleryindex.html

### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Hedera helix*, is a widespread invasive species. It wipes out the growth of other native plant species in forest floors, riparian zones, and wetlands. It is a kind of vine that can grow massively on grounds including the understory of forests and garden yards. It can attach to trees, walls, and other kinds of surfaces with its rootlets. Leaves are dark green, and waxy with veins of whitish-green color. At juvenile stage, leaf form is 3-lobed. Leaf is un-lobed and oval with less prominent whitish-green veins during the adult stage.



#### **Seasonal Development**

In the fall, clusters of greenish-white flowers are produced during the adult stage when sunlight is sufficient. Fruits, which are mildly toxic, are produced in spring.

#### **Distribution / Habitat**

English Ivy is native to Europe, western Asia, and northern Africa. European immigrants introduced English ivy to the United States as an ornamental landscape plant. Currently, it is an abundant and widespread invasive plant in at least 26 states.

#### **Interesting Facts**

• It is widely used in commercial and residential projects since it is low-maintenance, provides a uniform groundcover appearance, and grows in harsh conditions.

#### References

University of Minnesota, Department of Horticultural Science, 11/11/02, http://www.hort.agri.umn.edu/h5015/00papers/okerman.htm

Plant Conservation Alliance, Alien Plant Working Group, 11/11/02, http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/hehe1.htm

Photo from Veterinary medcine line, 11/11/02, http://www.library.uiuc.edu/vex/toxic/engivy/engivy.htm

## Lapsana communis, Nipplewort

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Lapsana communis* is an annual invasive weed with one erect stem that grows from 15 cm -150 cm high. The leaves are dullgreen, simple, alternate, pinnately toothed or lobed, and ovalshaped. About 13 yellow flower petals are contained by each dandylion-like flower head.

#### **Seasonal Development**

It flowers from June to September and the seeds ripen from August to October. Flowers are hermaphroditic (having both male and female organs), are pollinated by bees, flies, moths and butterflies.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Nipplewort is native in Europe and Asia. An invasive weed throughout the United States and Canada, it is common on the



western side of the Cascade Mountains of the Pacific Northwest. It can grow easily in disturbed areas such as roadsides, waste areas, gravel bars along streams, gardens, yards, and open woods.

### **Interesting Facts**

- The leaves and the upper stem portion can be eaten raw with salad.
- It has medicinal use for healing ulcers of the nipples of women's breasts.

#### References

Ariticle--nipplewort by Arthur Lee Jacobson, 11/28/02, http://www.arthurleej.com/a-nipplewort.html

Plants for a future database, 11/28/02, http://www.ibiblio.org/pfaf/D\_search.html

Illinois plant information network. 11/28/02. http://www.fs.fed.us/ne/delaware/ilpin/1646.co

Nipplewort, 11/28/02, http://ghs.gresham.k12.or.us/science/ps/nature/gorge/sun/dandy/lapsana.htm

Photo from Slichter (2001), 11/28/02, http://ghs.gresham.k12.or.us/science/ps/nature/gorge/sun/dandy/lapsana.htm

# Prunus Avium, Sweet Cherry

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Prunus Avium is a deciduous tree with reddish brown wood. Its leaves are alternate, simple, toothed on the margin, and have two 2 small glands at the base of the blade. The fruit is fleshy, yellow or red, and has a large pit.

#### **Seasonal Development**

The flower is white. There are 3 to 5 per cluster and they appear from April to May. The fruit matures in June and July. It is sweet, dark red, and up to 1 inch across.



#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Sweet Cherry prefers non-acid rich soils. It is found in woods and hedgerows.



### **Interesting Facts**

- The poisonous parts of the plant are the wilted leaves, stems, and seeds.
- The poisonous parts are highly toxic and if eaten, may be fatal.
- The edible parts of the plant are the fruit which can be eaten raw or cooked.

#### References

http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/poison/Prunuav.htm

http://linnaeus.nrm.se/flora/di/rosa/prunu/prunavi5.jpg

http://www.rfs.org.uk/

Photo from http://www.first-nature.com

# Rubus discolor, Armenian (Himalayan) Blackberry

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Rubus discolor*, formally known as the Himalayan Blackberry, is a robust clambering or sprawling evergreen shrub. In recent years it was realized that this species doesn't grow in the Himalayas, but in fact is native to Armenia. This invasive plant grows up to 9 feet in height and aggressively competes with surrounding plants by draping over them and crowding them out. Its thorny stems and 3 to 5 compound leaflets can distinguish the Armenian blackberry from native blackberries. It propagates by seed banking and cutlets.



#### **Seasonal Development**

The Armenian blackberry generally flowers from June to August. Fruit ripens in August and September, with seed dispersal in the Fall.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Armenian blackberry is a good food source for wild birds and is widely distributed. It can be found on disturbed sites in the Northeast and Pacific Northwest. It is also cultivated in gardens for its berry crop.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Armenian blackberry is the most commonly harvested wild blackberry in western Washington and Oregon, although its fruit is reportedly less flavorful than that of the native trailing blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*).
- It is a preferred berry for fruit pies.
- The fruit, roots, and stems of blackberries have been used to make various medicinal preparations.

#### References

US Forest Service Fire Effects Plant Database, November 2002, http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/rubdis/

Photo from George W. Hartwell, November 2002, http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/photos/

# Solanum dulcamara, Bittersweet Nightshade

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

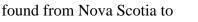
Solanum dulcamara is a woody perennial vine that can grow 6 feet to 12 feet high. Its lower leaves are alternating and ovate while commonly the upper leaves are found to be 3 lobed with 2 shorter lateral segments. Flowers are generally purple or white. The berries are red colored. The seeds are small (about 1 inch long), flesh colored, irregular disks, and have a dull glistening appearance.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Flowering of Solanum dulcamara occurs July through August and the berries ripen August through October.

#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Solanum dulcamara is native to Europe, northern Africa, and eastern Asia. Naturalized in North America, it is often





**Interesting Facts** 

- The berries of Solanum dulcamara are poisonous due to the existence of solanine, a toxic alkaloid.
- The poisonous berries have proven to be fatal to some species of birds and rabbits.

## References

Hypermedia for Plant Protection, December 2002, http://www.dijon.inra.fr/malherbo/hyppa/hyppa-a/hyppa a.htm

Poisonous Plants of North Carolina, December 2002, http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/poison/poison.htm

Digital Flowers, December 2002, http://www.life.uiuc.edu/plantbio/digitalflowers/

Photo from Gallery of Connecticut Wildflowers, December 2002, http://www.ct-botanical-society.org/galleries/galleryindex.html



# Vinca Major, Greater Periwinkle

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

Vinca Major is a semi-procumbent shrub with 12" – 36" trailing ascending stems. The leaves are dark green and bigger than those of Vinca minor. It has solitary violet flowers at the end of its stems.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Vinca major is an annual plant. It has dark green leaves all year and flowers throughout the spring and sporadically during the summer.



### **Distribution/Habitat**

*Greater periwinkle* thrives in almost any soil, quickly forming a medium textured evergreen groundcover. It requires full sun to partial shade. Sunnier positions result in more flowers and shadier positions result in more ground covering foliage.

It tolerates dry soils but grows best in rich, moist soils.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- Common name: Bigleaf periwinkle.
- All the Vincas are poisonous if ingested
- It is used internally in the treatment of excessive menstrual bleeding, abnormal uterine bleeding and vaginal discharge.
- It is used in chemotherapy in the treatment of cancer.
- Traditional uses include treatments for herpes, cancer, leukemia, and viral infections.

## References

http://www.tropilab.com/vinca-maj.html

http://www.floridata.com/ref/v/vinc\_maj.cfm

http://www.tropilab.com/vinca-maj.html

Photo from http://www.signaturelandscapes.com/plants/plant\_images/perennials\_gc/

# Vinca minor, Lesser Periwinkle

#### **General Botanical Characteristics**

*Vinca Minor*, known as common periwinkle or lesser periwinkle is native to Europe and western Asia. It is a low, trailing evergreen groundcover only 3" to 6" tall. It spreads many feet, has thin, wiry stems and can be grown in colder regions with snow cover.

#### **Seasonal Development**

Lesser Periwinkle prefers partial shade and tends to yellow in full sun and high heat. It grows better in moist, well-drained soil.



#### **Distribution/Habitat**

Native to Britain and Europe, lesser periwinkle can be found throughout North America because it has been used by horticulturalists as ground cover.

#### **Interesting Facts**

- It has been used to heal wounds.
- Lesser Periwinkle is used for erosion control.

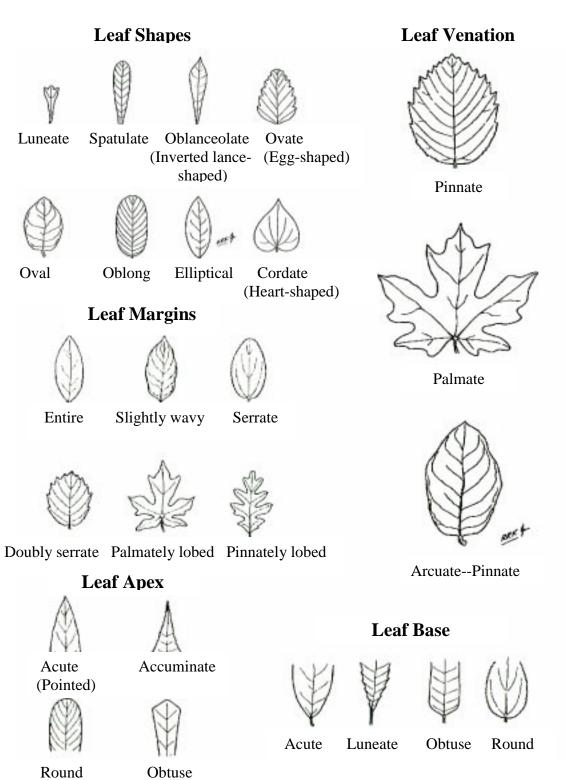
#### References

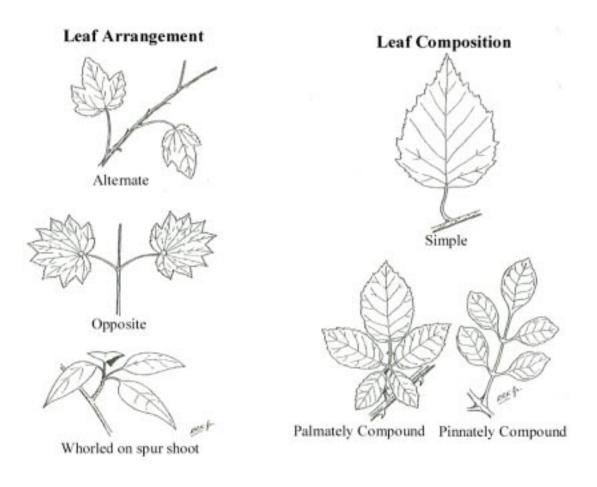
University of Connecticut Plant Database, November 2002, http://www.hort.uconn.edu/plants/v/vinmin/vinmin1.html.

Ohio State University Plant Database, November 2002, http://www.hcs.ohiostate.edu/hcs/TMI/Plantlist/vi\_minor.html.

# **Plant Leaf Guide**

(Blunt)





## **Reference:**

Diagrams from: Manual of Trees and Shrubs by Edward Jensen, Warren Bever, Robert Keniston, and Dale Bever. 2000. Corvallis

## Glossary

**Annual** – A plant that lives its lifecycle in one growing season. Tomato is an annual plant. **Apex** – Usually referring to the uppermost point, or the narrowing point at the end of a leaf.

**Calyx** – the usually green outer whorl of a flower consisting of sepals

**Corymbs** – a flat-topped inflorescence; *specifically*: one in which the flower stalks arise at different levels on the main axis and reach about the same height and in which the outer flowers open first and the inflorescence is indeterminate

**Forbs** – an herb other than grass.

Fructification – the reproductive organs or fruit of a plant

**Fruit globose** – fruit pollen

**Inflorescence** – the mode of development and arrangement of flowers on an axis; the budding and unfolding of blossoms

**Later seres** – a series of ecological communities formed in ecological succession Bottom of Form

**Montane** – of, relating to, growing in, or being the biogeographic zone of relatively moist cool upland slopes below timberline dominated by large coniferous trees

**Panicle** – a pyramidal loosely branched flower cluster

**Peduncle** – a stalk bearing a flower or flower cluster or fructification

**Perennial** – present at all seasons of the year

Raceme – a simple inflorescence (as in the lily-of-the-valley) in which the flowers are borne on short stalks of about equal length at equal distances along an elongated axis and open in succession toward the apex

**Rhizomatous** – a somewhat elongate usually horizontal subterranean plant stem that is often thickened by deposits of reserve food material, produces shoots above and roots below, and is distinguished from a true root in possessing buds, nodes, and usually scale like leaves **Sepals** – one of the modified leaves comprising a calyx

**Seral Communities** – of, relating to, or constituting an ecological sere.

Sere – series of ecological communities formed in ecological succession

Bottom of Form

**Stamens** – a microsporophyll of a seed plant; *specifically*: the pollen-producing male organ of a flower that consists of an anther and a filament

**Umbels** – a racemose inflorescence typical of the carrot family in which the axis is very much contracted so that the pedicels appear to spring from the same point to form a flat or rounded flower cluster

Vincas – any of several trailing or woody evergreen herbs of the dogbane family