

Arrowwood Viburnum



Arrowwood *Viburnum dentatum*

General Description

A dense round shrub which has a tendency to produce large numbers of basal stems. Currently available seed sources generally are not adapted to North Dakota.

Leaves and Buds

Bud Arrangement - Opposite.

Bud Color - Brownish, imbricate buds.

Bud Size - Small, glabrous.

Leaf Type and Shape - Simple, suborbicular to ovate.

Leaf Margins - Coarsely-dentate.

Leaf Surface - Glabrous and semi-glossy above, glabrous beneath or bearded in the axils of the veins.

Leaf Length - 1 to 3 inches.

Leaf Width - 1 to 2½ inches.

Leaf Color - Dark green; red fall color.

Flowers and Fruits

Flower Type - Flat-topped cymes.

Flower Color - White, but the yellow stamens impart a creamy color rather than pure white.

Fruit Type - Drupes, in flattened clusters.

Fruit Color - Porcelain-blue to bluish-black.

Form

Growth Habit - Multi-stemmed, dense shrub with upright, finally arching branches.

Texture - Medium-fine, summer; medium, winter.

Crown Height - 6 to 10 feet.

Crown Width - 6 to 10 feet.

Bark Color - Glabrous at maturity, gray, leaf scars with ciliate hairs around the margins.

Root System - Somewhat shallow, fibrous.

Environmental Requirements

Soils

Soil Texture - Adapted to a variety of soil types.

Soil pH - 4.0 to 6.5. Prefers acid soils. May become chlorotic in alkaline sites.

Windbreak Suitability Group - 1, 3.

Cold Hardiness

USDA Zone 3.

Water

Prefers moist, well-drained sites, very limited drought tolerance.

Light

Full sun to partial shade.

Uses

Conservation/Windbreaks

Medium shrub for farmstead windbreaks and riparian plantings.

Wildlife

Birds like the fruits. Seeds are found germinating in many out-of-the-way places.

Agroforestry Products

Wood - Native Americans used stems for arrows.

Food - Fruits of several *Viburnum* species are processed into jams.

Medicinal - Some *Viburnum* species are used as a nerve sedative, anti-spasmodic for asthma and for stomach troubles, colic and hysteria.

Urban/Recreational

Good in hedges, groupings, masses. Filler in shrub borders.

Cultivated Varieties

Chicago Luster™ Arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum* 'Synnestvedt') - A new cultivar with superior glossy leaves.

Related Species

American Cranberrybush (*Viburnum trilobum*)

European Cranberrybush (*V. opulus*) - Susceptible to snowball aphid twig and leaf distortion.

Nannyberry Viburnum (*V. lentago*)

Rafinesque Arrowwood (*V. rafinesquianum*) - Similar to *V. dentatum*, but better adapted and more drought tolerant in Northern Plains.

Wayfaringtree Viburnum (*V. lantana*) - Not very drought tolerant, showy red fruit clusters.

Pests

No major pest problems.