Freedom Honeysuckle
Freedom Honeysuckle (Lonicera x ‘Freedom’)

General Description
A medium-tall, open, irregular deciduous shrub with slender, spreading and arching branches. This cultivar was introduced by the University of Minnesota’s Department of Horticultural Science and Landscape Architecture. Resistant to the Russian honeysuckle aphid. Dull-colored foliage.

Leaves and Buds
Bud Arrangement - Opposite.
Bud Color - Gray, pubescent.
Bud Size - Small.
Leaf Type and Shape - Simple, ovate-elliptic.
Leaf Margins - Entire.
Leaf Surface - Pubescent on both surfaces.
Leaf Length - 3/4 to 1¼ inches.
Leaf Width - 1/2 to 1 inch.
Leaf Color - Blue-green, very dull-colored foliage.

Flowers and Fruits
Flower Type - Borne in peduncled pairs from the leaf axils of short lateral branchlets.
Flower Color - White with a tinge of pink.
Fruit Type - Berry.
Fruit Color - Red, 1/4 inch in diameter.

Form
Growth Habit - Loosely open, spreading and arching branches.
Texture - Medium, summer; medium-coarse, winter.
Crown Height - 6 to 9 feet.
Crown Width - 6 to 9 feet.
Bark Color - Grayish-brown.
Root System - Fibrous, spreading.

Environmental Requirements
Soils
Soil Texture - Adapted to a variety of soils.
Soil pH - 5.5 to 8.0.
Windbreak Suitability Group - 1, 1K, 3, 4, 4C, 5, 6D, 6G, 8, 9C, 9L.

Cold Hardiness
USDA Zone 4.

Water
Somewhat drought tolerant.

Light
Full sun.

Uses
Conservation/Windbreaks
Medium shrub for farmstead windbreaks.

Wildlife
Berries are eaten by birds. Nesting cover for songbirds.

Agroforestry Products
Medicinal - The fruits of some Lonicera species are used as laxatives.

Urban/Recreational
Good for border and screen planting, but lacks ornamental quality.

Cultivated Varieties
Freedom Honeysuckle (Lonicera x ‘Freedom’) - Resistant to Russian aphid.

Related Species
Amur Honeysuckle (Lonicera maackii)
Blueleaf Honeysuckle (L. korolkowii) - Parent of Freedom Honeysuckle.
Tatarian Honeysuckle (L. tatarica) - Susceptible to Russian aphids causing severe witches brooming and decline of plants.

Pests
No major pest problems.