Arrowwood Viburnum
Arrowwood Viburnum
(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.