

**AMUR HONEYSUCKLE**  
[*Lonicera maackii* (Rupr.) Herder;  
*L. maackii* (Rupr.) Maxim.]  
LOMA6



UGA2307091

**Habit:** Deciduous shrub up to 5 m (16 ft) tall and wide.<sup>6,12,5,19,16</sup>

**Reproduction:** By seed; main stem may re-sprout; cut young stems and bare roots may root.<sup>6,5,22</sup>

**Leaves:** Opposite, inverted egg-shaped; broadest in middle, tapering at both ends, 3.5-8.5 cm (1½-3½ in) long, tip abruptly pointed; petiole short, pubescent;<sup>6,12,19</sup> margin entire, fringed with hairs; upper surface dark green, paler below; both surfaces have hairs on the veins;<sup>6,12,2</sup> leaf-out before most woody deciduous species;<sup>12</sup> senescence later than several species.<sup>4</sup>

**Stems:** Grayish-brown, with short hairs on young stems; broad ridges and grooves appearing striped on older stems; internodes hollow; nodes and young stems may have white-tan pith.<sup>12,5</sup>

**Flowers:** Usually two at a node; 15-20 mm (½-¾ in) long;<sup>6,12</sup> May-June; on 5- to 8-year-old plants;<sup>3</sup> white, aging to yellow;<sup>6,12,19</sup> flower stems shorter than leaf petioles;<sup>12,19</sup> two lipped, anthers longer than the lips;<sup>12</sup> nectar mostly sucrose, attracting primarily bees; ~21,000 flowers/shrub, ~34 g sugar/day/shrub.<sup>21</sup>

## AMUR HONEYSUCKLE



UGA0016079



UGA1237033

### *Lonicera maackii* (Rupr.) Herder

**Fruits/Seeds:** Bright red at maturity in late summer-fall;<sup>19,12</sup> pulpy berry with 1-6 seeds (pers. obs.); may require cold, warm, or no stratification; optimal germination at 25 or 15°C (77 or 59°F) in light;<sup>1,9</sup> 54-81% germinate in warm, moist conditions in light (30-55% in dark); seed bank unlikely;<sup>15,14</sup> bird dispersed; the lipid-poor fruit not preferred;<sup>11,23</sup> small mammals consume seeds despite bitter seed coat; not a significant part of diet.<sup>24,25</sup>

**Habitat:** Native to Eurasia; introduced into the U.S. late 1850s;<sup>5,13</sup> urban areas, old fields, flood plains, upland/lowland forests (early-late successional), disturbed ground, wood edges, and roadsides;<sup>12,19</sup> USDA hardiness zones 3-8.<sup>5</sup>

**Comments:** Stratification inconsistencies may be cultivar-dependent (rem-red requires cold; cling-red does not);<sup>22</sup> higher growth rates and fitness in high light;<sup>10,14,17,13</sup> removal tests show increased survival/fecundity of associated natives;<sup>8,7,18</sup> American robins preferentially nest in *L. maackii* despite higher predation rates (nests are lower) compared to native shrubs.<sup>20</sup>

**Similar Native Species:** *L. canadensis*; smaller; flowers not strongly bilabiate; leaves not abruptly pointed.<sup>6</sup>