Rubus phoenicolasius
(Wineberry)

Common Name(s) | Full Scientific Name | Family Name Common | Family Scientific Name | Images | Synonyms | Description | Similar Species | Reproductive/Dispersal Mechanisms | Distribution | History of Introduction in New England | Habitats in New England | Threats | Early Warning Notes | Management Links | Documentation Needs | Additional Information | References | Data Retrieval | Maps of New England Plant Distribution

COMMON NAME
Wineberry

FULL SCIENTIFIC NAME
Rubus phoenicolasius Maxim.

FAMILY NAME COMMON
Rose family

FAMILY SCIENTIFIC NAME
Rosaceae

IMAGES

Leaves and Fruit

Leaves and Flowers

Flowers close-up

Upper (green)

Close-up of
and lower side (white) of leaves

NOMENCLATURE/SYNONYMS
Synonyms: None

DESCRIPTION
Botanical Glossary

*Rubus phoenicolasius* is a perennial that reaches 2 m (6.5 ft.) in height and has arching stems. The stems are densely hairy, and have a few slender prickles. These reddish-purple, glandular hairs measure 3-5 mm (0.1-0.2 in.) long. The petioles and inflorescences also have these hairs on them. The leaves are arranged alternately and each leaf is comprised of three leaflets. The terminal leaflet is broadly ovate in shape, with an acuminate apex and a rounded base. This leaflet measures 10 cm (4 in.) in length. The lateral leaflets are similar in shape, but much smaller in size. The upper leaf surface is pubescent and the lower leaf surface is densely white-tomentose, which is easily noticed when the leaves blow in the wind. The margins of the leaves are serrate.

The flowers of *Rubus phoenicolasius* are arranged in many-flowered panicles. The petals are small, white, and narrowly ovate in shape. The sepals are hairy and longer than the petals, giving the flowers an "unopened" look. The flowers appear in late May to early June. The berries (clusters of drupelets) are juicy and bright, shiny red in color. They are about 1 cm (0.4 in.) thick and may have fine hairs. They ripen in June to July.

Page References Bailey 525, Fernald 821, Gleason & Cronquist 251, Holmgren 231, Magee & Ahles 606. See reference section below for full citations.

SIMILAR SPECIES

*Rubus* spp.

Other species of *Rubus* lack the red, glandular-hairy stems and the white lower leaf surfaces.

REPRODUCTIVE/DISPERSAL MECHANISMS

*Rubus phoenicolasius* is mainly dispersed by birds and mammals that consume the red fruits. It can also reproduce vegetatively when the canes come in contact with the soil.

DISTRIBUTION

*Rubus phoenicolasius* is native to China and Japan. In the United
States it has been reported from Vermont to Georgia and west to Illinois and Arkansas. In New England it has been found in Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

HISTORY OF INTRODUCTION IN NEW ENGLAND

*Rubus phoenicolasius* was introduced into the United States in 1890. It was used for breeding stock for other species of *Rubus*. It is still used to implement specific genes into other *Rubus* species. It is unknown how this plant got introduced into New England specifically, but it was most likely through its use as a plant to breed with other species of *Rubus* that are present in New England.

HABITATS IN NEW ENGLAND

- Early Successional Forest
- Edge
- Floodplain Forest
- Herbaceous Wetland
- Open Disturbed Area
- Roadside
- Shrub Wetland
- Vacant Lot
- Wet Meadow
- Yard or Garden

*Rubus phoenicolasius* prefers moist soil and sun, though it can survive in other habitat types.

THREATS

*Rubus phoenicolasius* can rapidly form dense monotypic thickets that crowd out native vegetation. Since the fruits are tasty, it is often not recognized as a problem. Copious fruit production and subsequent bird-dispersal contribute to its spread across the landscape.

MANAGEMENT LINKS

Plant Conservation Alliance
Fact sheet including management information

DOCUMENTATION NEEDS

Documentation required: A specific photograph or mounted snippet of the flowers or the underside of the leaves.
Best time for documentation: Summer.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Integrated Taxonomic Information System
Taxonomic information

PLANTS Database
General information and map

Plant Conservation Alliance
Fact sheet

ARS-GRIN
Brief description and historical information

Virginia Tech Dendrology
Description and photographs

REFERENCES


DATA RETRIEVAL

Select a task by clicking the radio button and then click "Submit Selection."

- Formatted display as table
- Export as comma-delimited text file

MAPS OF PLANT DISTRIBUTION IN NEW ENGLAND

Select a study area by clicking the radio button and then click "Submit Selection."

- The whole New England area
- One or more states
- One or more counties
- One or more towns (county sub-divisions)