



# French Mulberry

*Callicarpa americana*

## The Verbena Family (Verbenaceae)

**Basic Description:** French Mulberry, also called American Beautyberry, is a short shrub with opposite, deciduous leaves, pink-blue tubular flowers and bright purple berries that attach in rounded clusters around the stems.

**Interesting Facts:** Native Americans used teas made from roots and leaves to treat rheumatism, stomach ailments, and malaria. The berries were also eaten. It grows in disturbed areas and serves a colonizing plant in damaged forests. Studies have found that French Mulberry contains a natural insect repellent.

**Flower:** Small, pink to bluish, tubular, appearing from leaf axils in mid to late summer.

**Fruit:** Bright purple, small berries in multiple groups, .25" in diameter.

**Wildlife Value:** Berries and foliage are a common food source for mammals and berries are a winter food source for several songbirds.

**Habitat:** Moist woods, coastal plains, swamp edges, bottomlands.

### LEAF TYPE

SIMPLE



### POLLINATOR

INSECTS



### WILDLIFE VALUE

MEDIUM

