

Sweetshrub

Calycanthus floridus

The Sweetshrub Family (Calycanthaceae)

Basic Description: Multi-trunked shrub with erect, multiple stems creating a rounded outline; opposite, glossy, leathery, deciduous leaves and thin, light red-brown bark.

Interesting Facts: Common name refers to its fragrant leaves and flowers which are used as potpourri or air freshener. Leaves, roots and bark used as cinnamon replacement; however can be toxic if large quantities are consumed. Infusions made from bark used as an emetic, diuretic and for treating skin hives. Also called Carolina Allspice.

Flower: Dark red to brownish-red, 1 - 2" across, numerous sepals and petals, strong strawberry-like odor, appearing March to May.

Fruit: Green to light brown, woody, bell-shaped "capsule" 1 - 1.5" long, on a stalk; matures in late summer to early fall.

Wildlife Value: Provides pollen for beetles and other pollinators; forage for white-tailed deer; limited cover and food source.

Habitat: Wooded openings and edges; stream banks; moist hillsides.

LEAF TYPE

SIMPLE



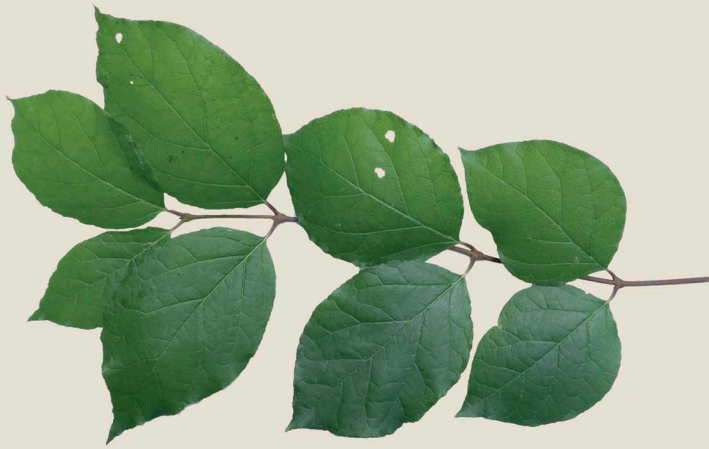
POLLINATOR

INSECTS



WILDLIFE VALUE

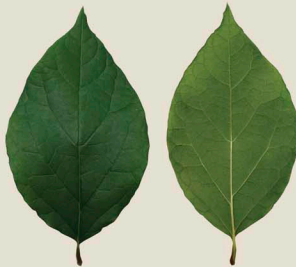
LOW



Flower



Height range 6-10'



3 to 6"