

Sambucus canadensis
Elderberry, American elder



Summer Foliage and Flowers

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - White in flat-topped clusters

Flowering Period - Late June through mid July

Fruit Color - Purple to black berries

Fruiting Period - Early August through late September

Habitat (Community): Fresh tidal marshes, non tidal marshes, swamps, wet meadows, old fields, and moist woods

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Resistant; tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: **(Fruit)** food for mourning dove, yellow-bellied sapsucker, eastern king bird, American robin, starling, blue jay; **(Food, Fruit, and/or Cover)** for red-bellied and red-headed woodpecker, wood and hermit thrushes, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, wild turkey, ring-necked pheasant, common flicker, brown thrasher, common grackle, and cardinal. **(Food, Cover, and Nesting)** Mockingbird and gray catbird.

Distribution: Nova Scotia to Manitoba and South Dakota, south to Florida and Texas