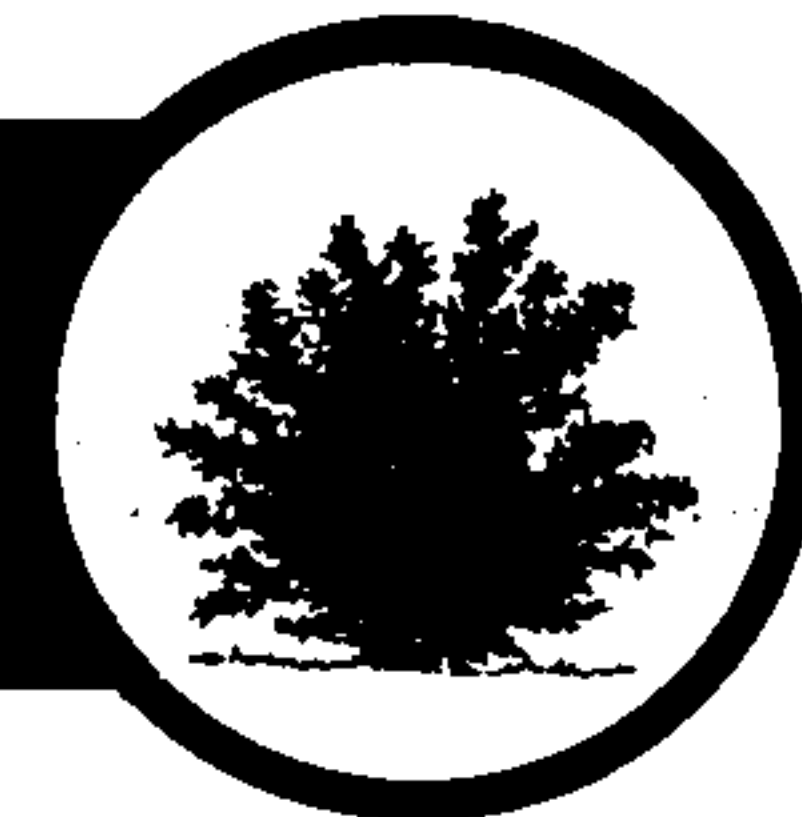


RED-OSIER DOGWOOD



Cornus stolonifera

IDENTIFYING CHARACTERISTICS:

- Branching:** Opposite.
- Leaves:** Simple; entire (smooth) margins; **very distinct veins** (typical for all dogwoods); pointed tip; 2 to 5 inches long; medium to dark green, turn purplish to red in fall (a good characteristic of all dogwood leaves: carefully break leaf in half across the veins—the two parts hang together by white “spider web” threads in the veins).
- Flowers:** Small; dull white; inconspicuous; flat-topped clusters; late May or early June.
- Fruit:** Small (approximately ¼ inch), white berries; clusters; August to September.
- Twigs:** Red is usually the prominent color; may be yellow or yellow-green; white pith.
- Stems:** Same as twigs except older canes turn grayish.

GROWTH HABITS:

- Rate:** Moderate.
- Height:** Up to 10 feet.
- Crown spread:** Up to 12 feet.
- Roots:** Fibrous; spreads from underground stems or stolons.

RANGE: Native; hardy in all zones; see zone map for shrubs.

SHADE TOLERANCE: Tolerant.

SOILS: Prefers wetter sites.

SUSCEPTIBILITY:

- Insects:** Dogwood borer; red-humped caterpillar; cottony maple scale.
- Diseases:** *Septoria* leaf spot; *Botrytis* leaf blight.

USES:

- Shelterbelts:** Not recommended because of root suckering, except in wet spots.
- Wildlife:** Good to very good; birds—some nesting, perching, some feeding and escape cover; mammals—some feeding (especially white-tail deer), escape cover.
- Horticultural:** Interesting stem color, and ability to hold soil makes it useful in massing along highways, in parks, and along banks; has potential for use as a short, dense barrier in home landscape; the old wood should be removed occasionally to retain effective red color.

CULTIVARS: ISANTI RED-TWIG DOGWOOD (*Cornus sericea* [*Stolonifera*] 'Isanti'); developed by the University of Minnesota; slow-growing, compact (6 feet); hardy in all zones.

YELLOW-TWIG DOGWOOD (*Cornus sericea* [*Stolonifera*] 'Flavirammea') has yellow color instead of red; about 10 feet; less vigorous; hardy in all zones.