

Fruit, Seeds, and Animals

2022-05-02 9:07 AM Ver. Norris Whiston © Canada
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Trees of the Maritimes, Northern New England &
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Whiston, Earltown NS. norrisw@ns.sympatico.ca

Conical or Upright Drupes Clusters



chokecherry *Prunus virginiana* egg-shape leaf, thin, shiny, dark green, pointed, sharp fine teeth, hydrocyanic acid; red to purplish; juicy, bitter pulp, seeds poisonous; bobwhite, grouse, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, fox, deer, bear



hobblebush *Viburnum lantanoides* large heart-shape leaf, heavily veined, tan buds, irregular teeth; drupe > red; inedible; ruffed grouse, chipmunk, squirrel

red elderberry *Sambucus racemose* pinnate leaf, elliptical leaflets, undulating edge, sharp teeth, rank; small br. red; poisonous; 43 bird species, cedar waxwing, robin, mourning doves, pheasant



black cherry *Prunus serotina* elliptical leaf, thick, glossy, fine sharp teeth, hydrocyanic acid; dk red > purple blk; toxic seed; edible pulp; bobwhite, grouse, pheasant, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, fox, deer, bear



alternate-leaved dogwood *Cornus alternifolia* egg-shaped leaf, convex, deep long curved veins, alternate, top looks like a whorl, smooth often undulating edge, toxic; blue-black drupes, on red stem, two seeds; bitter pulp; late summer snack for birds; many song birds, vireo, ruffed grouse, deer, black bear

staghorn sumac *Rhus typhina* pinnate leaf, lance leaflets, hairy axis, toothed, tannin, toxic; fuzzy red; caution; 91 bird species, grosbeak, ruffed grouse, deer

Hanging Drupe / Berry Chains



Japanese Barberry *Berberis thunbergii* oval leaf, in rosettes, no teeth; yellow > red elliptical drupe; acidic



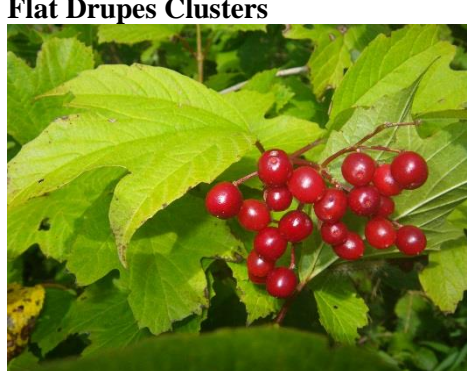
pin cherry / fire cherry / bird cherry *Prunus pennsylvanica* lance broadly leaf, shiny, long pointed, tooth, hydrocyanic acid; green > red; edible, acidic; robin, thrush, cedar waxwing, starling, grosbeak, catbird, chipmunk, skunk, red fox, deer



red-osier dogwood *Cornus stolonifera* egg-shape leaf, opposite paired leaves, long curved veins smooth edge, toxic; white with pin-like extension or sometimes gray blue, red stemmed; very bitter; many song birds, evening grosbeaks, ruffed grouse, chipmunk, squirrels



Virginia creeper / Woodbine *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* palmate leaf, oval lfts, rd veins, coarse th; grape-like; oxalic acid, mildly toxic; winter birds



highbush cranberry *Viburnum opulus*, trilobum 3 lobe leaf, variety of shapes, elongated pointed lobes, irregular teeth; thick clusters shiny, red; edible; cedar waxwing, ruffed grouse, grosbeaks, emergency food



wild raisin / witherod / possumhaw *Viburnum nudum* elliptical leaf, opposite, thick, slightly toothed, lighter vein, tipped; green > pink > blue black > raisin-like; edible, laxative; robins, cedar waxwing, blackbird, ruffed grouse, mice, chipmunks, hares, skunk, squirrel



common elderberry *Sambucus canadensis* pinnate leaf, elliptical leaflets, glycosides, finely toothed; very thick clusters red > purple-black, pulpy, small drupes; hydrocyanic acid, edible, seeds toxic; 43 birds, robin, nuthatches, eastern phoebes, catbird, kingbirds, mourning dove, pheasant, ruffed grouse, wild turkey.

Sm. Drupes Clusters



mountain holly *Ilex mucronatus* elliptical leaf, light green, stalked, sharp tipped, smooth edge; long stemmed light red drupes; [The author had difficulty finding this plant and eventually found it close by. About two years later, the area & plant were clearcut.]



glossy / smooth buckthorn *Frangula alnus* elliptical leaf, shiny dark green, smooth edge; red > black in leaf axils; mildly toxic; starlings, over wintering birds,



European buckthorn *Rhamnus cathartica* oval – elliptical leaf, curving veins, wavy fine teeth; [twigs often thorn tipped], shiny black cluster base of twigs, mildly toxic



alder-leaved buckthorn *Rhamnus alnifolia* oval leaf, fine teeth; red to purple-black in leaf axils, long stalks, often hidden by leaf; not edible, toxic

Pomes (like apples)



wild apple *Malus pumila* elliptical or round leaf, rough, wavy, small teeth; thick stemmed, green > red pome; edible; grouse, deer, all kinds of wildlife



serviceberry / shadbush / Juneberry / Indian pear / Saskatoon *Amelanchier* oval to elliptical leaf; fine teeth; long stem, green > red > black-purple pome, enduring calyx crown; sweet mealy; song birds, chickadee, hermit thrush, robins, catbirds, blue jay, woodpecker, mourning dove, game birds, squirrel, martin, bears



hawthorn *Crataegus* 7 + lobes, sharp irregular teeth; small clusters red pome, with partially remaining calyx; edible; cedar waxwing, robin, pine grosbeak, game birds, small animals



northern mountain ash / showy mountain ash / dogberry *Sorbus decora* pinnate leaf, lance leaflet, stalkless, round near pt. tip, fine teeth; clusters larger orange- red pomes, partially remain calyx, parascorbic acid, bitter, somewhat toxic; songbirds, cedar waxwing, grosbeaks, robins, ruffed grouse, fisher, marten, bear



black chokeberry *Aronia melanocarpa* elliptical leaf, spoon-shape, some abruptly taper, fine teeth; hanging stalked clusters red > black pomes, juicy, very bitter

Hips



Virginia rose / pasture rose *Rosa virginiana* pinnate leaf, elliptical leaflets, thin, shiny, top ¼ of leaf teeth; red hips with some bristles, calyx falls leaving a crown, made into jelly; finches, waxwing, thrushes, blackbirds, wild game, small mammals



multiflora rose *Rosa multiflora* pinnate leaf, oval leaflets, distinctive teeth; 5 mm orange to red hips, hairless, retaining only the crown of the old calyx; See above.

Peapods



black locust *Robinia pseudoacacia* pinnate leaf, oval leaflets, stalked, rounded both ends, smooth edge; hanging thin peapods, green > pink > brown, seeds poisonous; bobwhite, pheasant, mourning dove, rabbit, deer

Samaras, Single Wing



white ash *Fraxinus americana* pinnate leaf, oval leaflets, short stalked, tipped, sparse fine teeth or no teeth; hanging paddle-shaped samaras, no twist, wing at end of seed; finch, cardinal, grosbeak, bobwhite, grouse, turkey, mice, squirrel



black ash *Fraxinus nigra* pinnate leaf, oval to lance leaflet, no stalks except end, sharp pointed, fine teeth; samaras twisted, wing surrounds seed; finch, cardinal, grosbeak, bobwhite, grouse, turkey, mice, squirrel

Samaras, Paired



red maple *Acer rubrum* 3 lobe leaf, sharp sinus, irregular teeth; tight samaras, pink green > brown;



Manitoba maple / box elder / ash leaf maple *Acer negundo* pinnate leaf, oval and lobed leaflet, pointed, irregular teeth; thick drooping clumps of tight samaras, green > gray, remain in winter; evening grosbeak, pine grosbeak



mountain maple *Acer spicatum* 3 lobe leaf, hairy under, wrinkled (deep veins), coarse rounded teeth; chains slightly spread samaras, depression in seed, pink or red > brown; birds and small animals



sugar maple / rock maple *Acer saccharum* 5 lobe, thin, u-shaped sinus, mostly smooth edge; samaras spherical dark green seed, not palatable, survival food; cardinal, grosbeak,



striped maple / moose maple *Acer pensylvanicum* 3 lobe leaf, very large, heart base, pointed tips, fine teeth; wide samaras, depression in seed, thin wings, hanging chains;



Norway maple *Acer platanoides* 5 lobe leaf; u sinus, milky sap at leaf base, a few sharply pointed ends; samaras very wide spreading;

Samaras, Round



elm *Ulmus americana* asymmetrical oval leaf, point ends, rough surface, thick, deep veins run to teeth, double tooth; thin round samaras, stalked, with hairy edges; song birds, game birds, squirrels

Bract Clusters



hophornbeam / ironwood *Ostrya virginiana* oval-elliptical leaf, sharp, double-toothed; seed clusters in oval bract, inedible; finch, grosbeak, game birds, small animals

Husks



beech *Fagus grandifolia* elliptical leaf, deeply pleated, veins run to sharp teeth; woody husk with spines, stalked, edible but bitter; game birds, squirrels, raccoons, bears, and other mammals



beaked hazelnut *Corylus cornuta* egg-shaped leaf, may have heart shape base, abruptly taper, veins to longest of double teeth; hairy green husk enclosing nut, edible, high protein, low carbohydrates; blue jay, small rodents, deer. Chipmunks and squirrels store them,

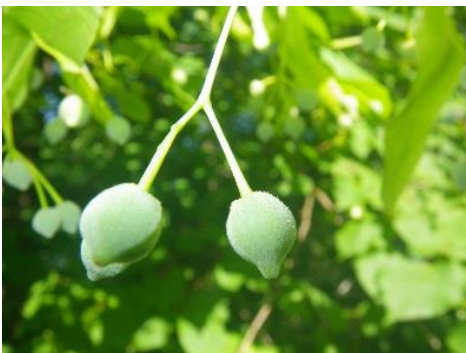
Capsules



meadowsweet *Spiraea latifolia* oval – lance leaf, coarse teeth; pyramidal clusters of small star-like capsules, salicylic acid; sparrows



eastern ninebark / common ninebark *Physocarpus opulifolius* 3 lobes, rounded teeth; rounded clusters pink-red; many birds



basswood / linden *Tilia americana* asymmetrical leaf, slender tips, small sharp teeth; stalked small cluster round nutlets, attached to leafy wing, hairy pale green > brown, edible; grouse, bob white, small mammals



witch-hazel *Hamamelis virginiana* asymmetrical leaf, rough, undulating edge, prominent veins, rounded uneven teeth; 4 pointed capsule, furry green > drying, woody & brown, when splits ejects black seeds; bobwhite, pheasant, ruffed grouse, rabbit, beaver, deer

Acorns



northern red oak *Quercus rubra* 7 lobe, yellow or red ribs, shallow wide sinuses, pointed tips; relatively stout acorn, flat cap, its tannin repels animals, bitter, rinse to leech out tannins; herbivorous birds, mourning dove, ruffed grouse, bobwhite, wood duck, turkey, pheasant, chipmunk, squirrel, fox, raccoon, deer, bear



English oak *Quercus robur* 7 lobes, short stalked, deeper lobes than swamp white oak, rounded tips; long stalk, long acorn, half round cap; See above for birds & animals.



burr / mossy-cup oak *Quercus macrocarpa* 7 lobe leaf, shiny, dark green, wide deep sinus, rnd tips; deep fringed cap, edible; see above for birds & animals.

Cone-Like



speckled alder *Alnus incana* egg-shaped leaf, rough, wrinkled, pleated, deep straight sunken veins, doubled tooth; green cones short stalks, dry to brown cones; some song birds, siskins, chickadee, goldfinch, redpolls, nuthatch, ruffed grouse



gray birch *Betula populifolia* triangular leaf, lustrous, flat base, tapering tip, coarse teeth; grows in sterile soil; green cones dry to brown cones; above ^



white birch *Betula papyrifera* egg-shaped, thick, rounded base, long pointed, irregular teeth; green cones dry to brown cones; above ^



yellow birch *Betula alleghaniensis* heart-shaped base, broken twigs wintergreen smell, double tooth; green cones dry to brown cones, methyl salicylate; above ^

REFERENCES: Blouin 2012; Boland 2012, Dwelley 1980; Little (Audubon) 1980; MacKinnon 2009; Petrides (Peterson) 1988; Tully 2021, Whiston 2019; Wojtech 2011;