

## CORNACEAE      DOGWOOD FAMILY

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Trees or shrubs. LEAVES opposite or less often alternate, simple, entire or denticulate, arcuately veined. INFLORESCENCES terminal, cymose, umbellate, or capitate, sometimes subtended by showy, petaloid bracts. FLOWERS actinomorphic, perfect, epigynous; calyx 4-lobed, adnate to the ovary; petals 0 or 4, distinct; stamens 4, alternate with the petals; pistil 1; ovary inferior, bicarpellate, bilocular, with 1 ovule per locule; style simple; stigma 1–4-lobed. FRUITS drupes. SEEDS 2 per stone.—11 genera, ca. 100 spp., mostly in n hemisphere.

### **Cornus** L.    Dogwood

Shrubs or small trees. LEAVES opposite in ours, simple, exstipulate, deciduous, the blades tapered at both ends. INFLORESCENCES congested, capitate, up to ca. 1.5 cm wide, (surrounded by 4 showy bracts up to 4 cm long), or as in ours diffuse, cymose, 2–5 cm wide (lacking showy bracts). FLOWERS small, ca. 1 cm across in ours; calyx basally connate; petals 4, valvate; stamens attached to the receptacle. FRUITS drupes, globose to ovoid.—ca. 50 spp.; n temperate regions (Latin: horn, from the hard wood).

Dogwoods are commonly cultivated as ornamentals for their autumnal foliage and large showy bracts found in some species, e.g., *Cornus florida* L.

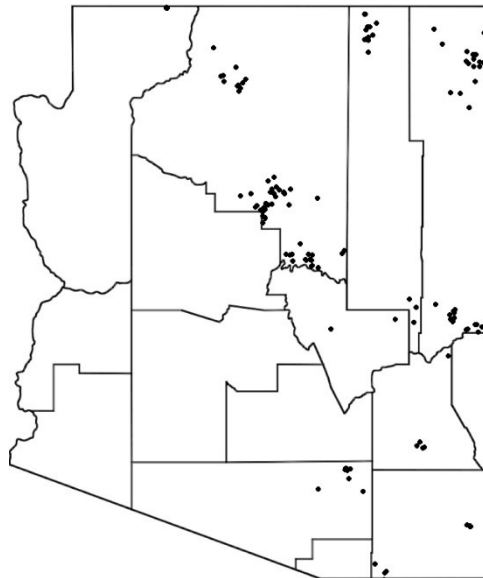
***Cornus sericea*** L. (silky). Redosier dogwood. Shrubs to 4 m tall. STEMS glabrate, reddish to purple when young, grayish green when older. LEAVES ovate, lanceolate, or elliptic, paler underneath, 2–8 cm long, 1–4 cm wide, 1.3–3 times as long as wide, with 4–7 pairs of veins. INFLORESCENCE cymose, lacking showy bracts. FLOWERS: petals 2–4 mm long; style 1–3 mm long. FRUIT white, 7–10 mm long, the stone with faces smooth or with ridges.—2 subspp.; ne, nc, w US; Can., Mex.

**subsp. *sericea*** (silky).—LEAVES abaxially glabrous or strigose. FLOWERS: petals 2–3 mm long; style 1–2 mm long. FRUITS: stone smooth on faces, furrowed on sides. [*Cornus alba* L., *C. baileyi* J. M. Coult. & Evans, *C. instolonea* A. Nelson, *C. interior* (Rydb.), N. Petersen, *C. stolonifera* Michx., *Swida instolonea* (A. Nelson) Rydb., *S. sericea* (L.) Holub, *S. stolonifera* (Michx.) Rydb.].—Riparian and canyon habitats; Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Gila, Graham, Pima, Mohave, Navajo cos.; 1200–2800 m (4000–9200 ft); May–Oct.

*Cornus sericea* subsp. *occidentalis* (Torr. & A. Gray) Fosb. is known from CA and NV, but has not been collected in AZ. It can be distinguished by having larger petals (3–4 mm), larger styles (2.5–3 mm), and having three ridges on the faces of the stones (Shevock 2016).

## LITERATURE CITED

SHEVOCK, J. R. 2016. *Cornus*, in Jepson Flora Project (eds.) *Jepson eFlora*, [http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/cgi-bin/get\\_IJM.pl?tid=10016](http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/cgi-bin/get_IJM.pl?tid=10016), accessed August 2016.



**Cornaceae.** Figure 1. *Cornus sericea* subsp. *sericea*. A. Inflorescence. B. Infructescence; fruits white, but appearing colored because of light in Oak Creek Canyon. Map of distribution. Photos by Max Licher.