

American Elder



Sambucus canadensis

This native shrub is very important for wildlife. The fruit is eaten by a multitude of birds of all types, as well as many mammals. Elderberry also creates excellent shelter for ground birds. The fruit is great for jellies, pies, juice, and wine with a high vitamin C content. This plant is highly useful medicinally. The leaves and inner bark have insecticidal properties and can also be used as a repellent. The bark can be utilized to create a black dye. The stems can be hollowed out easily to create instruments or spouts.

**NATIVE TO EASTERN
UNITED STATES**

- Hardiness: Zone 3(4)-9
- Size: 5-12'
- Habit: Vase shaped multi-stemmed shrub. Fast growth rate
- Flower: White blooms, quite profuse, June-July
- Culture: Prefers moist soils. Will tolerate dry to wet and sun to shade.
- Uses: Wet areas, naturalizing, erosion control, food, high wildlife value, medicinal, dye, insecticide, musical instrument