


Plant These Instead:  
**Alternatives to  
Invasive  
Woody Plants**



Chinese Wisteria,  
*Wisteria sinensis*

# NC State Extension Master Gardener<sup>SM</sup> Program

A network of trained volunteers and  
Extension educators

working in N.C. Cooperative  
Extension county centers

across our state . . .



# We connect people with the benefits of sustainable gardening



Better nutrition & food security



Improved physical & mental health



Pollinators & wildlife habitat



Cleaner air & water, stormwater infiltration



Livable cities & healthier communities

**through research-based information,  
educational programming and community outreach.**

Learn more: [emgv.ces.ncsu.edu](https://emgv.ces.ncsu.edu)



Learn. Grow. Share.

# Plant These Instead

- What are invasive exotic woody plants?
- What you can do
- Common invasive woody plants and some landscape alternatives



Review these slides:

[go.ncsu.edu/invasives-pti](https://go.ncsu.edu/invasives-pti)



# What are exotic invasive woody plants?

- **Woody** = trees, shrubs, vines having permanent, bark-covered above ground structures
- **Exotic** = not naturally occurring in this region (NC Piedmont)
- **Invasive** = capable of causing economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health



Japanese  
Honeysuckle,  
*Lonicera japonica*

# Why do some exotics become invasive?

- Well adapted to our climate – from similar climates
- Pests and pathogens found in native climate not found here
- Reproduce and spread rapidly by roots or seeds
- **Adaptable and competitive** - Take advantage of disturbed environments



**Chinese Privet,**  
*Ligustrum sinense*

# Weedy vs. Invasive

**A. Weeds** - Persist or spread in human maintained sites only

**B. Invasives** - Spread into native areas. Impacts:

- Displace native species, reduce biodiversity
- Some are able to create monocultures that alter species composition, change ecosystem function

Henbit is a common winter lawn and field weed that does not spread into native areas



# Change Ecosystem Function



**Kudzu,**  
*Pueraria montana*

Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to biodiversity



# How do they get here?

- **Intentionally** brought in as ornamentals, animal feed, or for stabilization
- **Accidentally** introduced in packing materials, ballast, crop seed. . .

**Kudzu** was first introduced as an ornamental in 1876, then promoted for cattle forage and soil stabilization.



# How do they spread?

By **seeds** and **plant or root fragments**

- Carried by **birds and mammals**, especially berries
- **By water** – rivers, streams, surface flooding
- **By soil** – bought any “topsoil” lately?
- **On equipment** – boats, mowing equipment, trains, vehicles
- **In the rootball** of shared plants
- **In pots you take home from the garden center!**



Nandina berries.  
Cathy Dewitt, CC BY 4.0



# What can you do?

- **Become familiar** with species invasive to your region
- **Identify and remove** invasives on your property and in your community
  - Simply cutting them down is not enough!
  - Dig and remove roots, or
  - Treat with herbicide – Contact Extension for recommendations
  - Monitor 1-2 years for seedlings or root sprouts



# What can you do?

## Don't introduce new invasives

- Plants classified as *noxious weeds* cannot be sold in NC
  - Regulated by [NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services](#)  
[NC Noxious Weed List](#) – Other than beach vitex, none have ever been used as landscape plants
- NC laws do not prevent invasive species from being grown, sold or planted



Beach vitex was planted for erosion control in the 1980s

Photo credit: Forest & Kim Starr (top), Starr Environmental (bottom),

[Bugwood.org](http://Bugwood.org), USDA

# What can you do?

## Select plants thoughtfully

Consider:

- **Suitability to site conditions**
  - sun, soil, drainage, deer
- **Landscape need** – screening, seasonal interest, low maintenance
- **Environmental impacts** – benefits to wildlife and pollinators, invasive potential



Japanese privet, *Ligustrum japonicum*, may become invasive

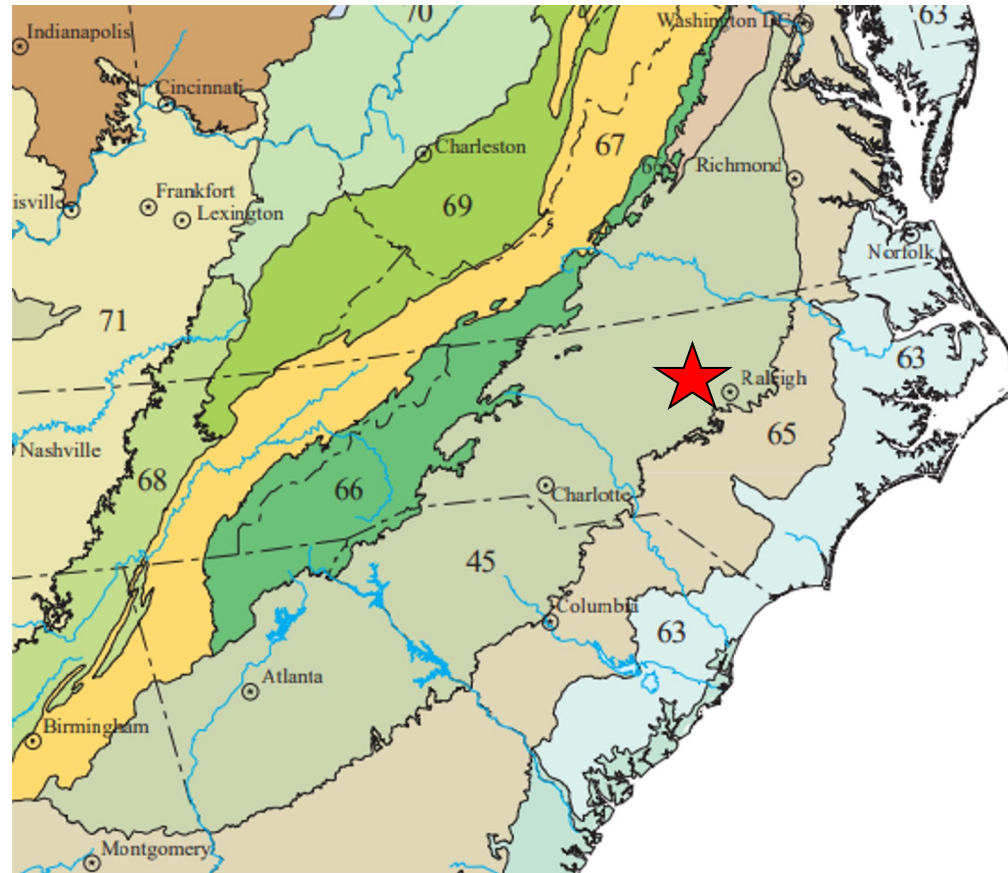
# Select Plants Thoughtfully

## For new plantings:

- Plants native to your region
- Non-natives with no known invasive potential

## Natives only? Consider:

- Proximity to natural areas, woodlands, and nature preserves



Ecoregions of North America, Level III

We are Ecoregion 45, Piedmont – extends from northern VA to central AL

# Plant Toolbox

## [plants.ces.ncsu.edu](http://plants.ces.ncsu.edu)

- 4,695 plants and counting
- 96 data points/plant
- More than 24,000 images
- Latin name pronunciation
- Videos

North Carolina  
Extension Gardener  
Plant Toolbox

Home Find a Plant Identify a Plant Design Gallery Help Give Now Contact Search

**Home**

The North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox contains detailed descriptions and photographs of 4,631 plants that grow in and around North Carolina.

**Here are some tips to get you started**

Search by scientific or common name:

Search

Search

Use [Find a Plant](#) to select the perfect plant for a specific location.

Use [Identify a Plant](#) to determine the name of a plant based on leaf and flower characteristics.

**Looking for help?**

Have a look at the [Help](#) page to get tips on using the Plant Toolbox, and be sure to check the [Glossary](#) for plant identification terms.

**Our Partners**  
NC State Partners

- College of Natural Resources
- Forestry & Environmental Resources
- Herbarium
- Horticultural Science
- JC Raulston Arboretum
- Master Gardener Volunteers
- The Natural Learning Initiative
- NC Sea Grant
- NC State Extension
- Plant Disease and Insect Clinic

**Featured Plants:**

- Camellia sasanqua*  
Sasanqua  
Camellia
- Chimonanth praecox*  
Fragrant  
Wintersweet  
Wintersweet
- Erica carnea*  
Heath  
Winter Heath  
Heath
- Galanthus elwesii*  
Giant  
Snowdrop  
Snowdrop
- Helleborus*  
Christmas  
Roses  
Hellebores  
Lenten  
Roses

**First, explore the**

# Find a Plant



North Carolina

Extension Gardener

Plant Toolbox

- Home
- Find a Plant**
- Identify a Plant
- Design Gallery
- Help
- Give Now
- Contact



## Home

The North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox contains detailed descriptions and photographs of 4,632 plants that grow in and around North Carolina.

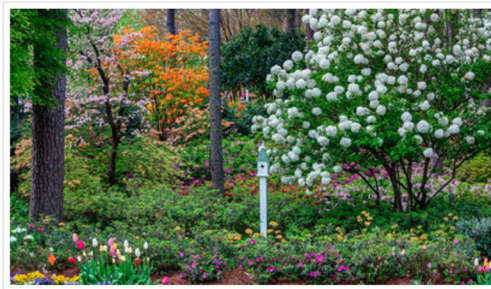
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### Looking for help?

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**First, explore the toolbox on a computer to learn how to navigate and use the search features**

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- NC Sea Grant
- NC State Extension
- Plant Disease and Insect Clinic
- Mountain Crop Improvement Lab
- Braham Arboretum

### Featured Plants:

- Camellia sasanqua*  
Sasanqua Camellia
- Chimonanthus praecox*  
Fragrant Wintersweet  
Wintersweet
- Erica carnea*  
Alpine  
Alpine Heath  
Heath
- Galanthus elwesii*  
Giant Snowdrop  
Snowdrop
- Helleborus*  
Christmas Roses  
Hellebores  
Lenten Roses
- Jasminum nudiflorum*  
Winter-Flowered Jasmine



# Find a Plant



Home Find a Plant Identify a Plant Design Gallery Help Give Now Contact

Search

Search

## Find a Plant

< 1 2 3 4 ... 97 >

Display:

### Cultural Conditions

- Light
- Soil Texture
- Soil pH
- Soil Drainage
- Available Space To Plant
- NC Region
- USDA Plant Hardiness Zone

### Landscape

- Landscape Location
- Landscape Theme
- Design Feature
- Attracts
- Resistance To Challenges
- Problems to exclude

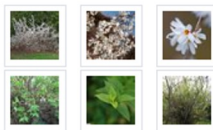
### Whole Plant Traits

- Plant Type
- Annual 478
- Bulb 217

4632 plants by **Scientific** Common Name

### *Abeliophyllum distichum*

Korean Abelia, Korean abelialeaf, Korean abeliophyllum, Miseonnamu, White Forsythia



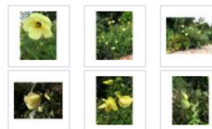
### *Abelmoschus esculentus*

Bentwood, Bindwood, Common Ivy, Gobbo, Gumbo, Ivy, Ivy Gum Plant, Ladies' Fingers, Love United, Ochro, Okra, Okro



### *Abelmoschus manihot*

Hibiscus Manihot, Muskmallow, Sunset Huskmallow, Tropic Jewel Hibiscus



### *Abies alba*

Common Silver Fir, European Silver Fir, Silver Fir



4 Cultivars/Varieties

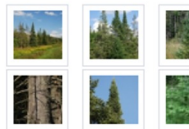
### *Abies amabilis*

Amabilis fir, Cascades fir, Pacific silver fir, Red Fir, White fir



### *Abies balsamea*

Balm of Gilead, Balsam Fir



2 Cultivars/Varieties

### *Abies balsamea var. phanerolepis*

Canaan Fir, West Virginia Balsam Fir



### *Abies cephalonica*

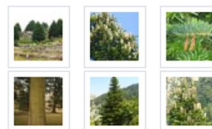
Black Mountain Fir, Grecian fir, Greek Fir



2 Cultivars/Varieties

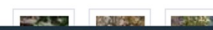
### *Abies cilicica*

Cilicica Fir, Syrian Fir, Taurus Fir



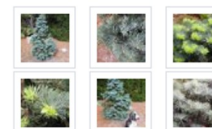
### *Abies concolor*

Abeto Del Colorado, Balsam Fir, Colorado Fir, Colorado White Fir, Concolor Fir, Pino Real Blanco, Rocky Mountain White Fir, Western White Fir, White Balsam, White Fir



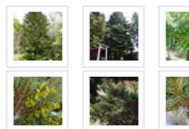
### *Abies concolor 'Compacta'*

Compact White Fir



### *Abies firma*

Japanese Fir, Momi Fir



# Find a Plant

## Cultural Conditions

- ✓ Light
- ✓ Soil Texture
- ✓ Soil pH
- ✓ Soil Drainage
- ✓ Available Space To Plant
- ✓ NC Region
- ✓ USDA Plant Hardiness Zone

## Landscape

- ✓ Landscape Location
- ✓ Landscape Theme
- ✓ Design Feature
- ✓ Attracts
- ✓ Resistance To Challenges
- ✓ Problems to exclude

## Whole Plant Traits

- ✓ Plant Type
- ✓ Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics
- ✓ Habit/Form
- ✓ Growth Rate
- ✓ Maintenance
- ✓ Texture

## Flowers

- ✓ Flower Color
- ✓ Flower Value To Gardener
- ✓ Flower Bloom Time

## Leaves

- ✓ Leaf Color
- ✓ Leaf Feel
- ✓ Leaf Value To Gardener
- ✓ Deciduous Leaf Fall Color

## Whole Plant Traits

- ✓ Plant Type
  - Annual 478
  - Bulb 217
  - Carnivorous 25
  - Cool Season Vegetable 38
  - Edible 451
  - Epiphyte 50
  - Fern 91
  - Ground Cover 461
  - Herb 300
  - Herbaceous Perennial 727
  - Houseplant 283
  - Mushroom 17
  - Native Plant 1032
  - Ornamental Grasses and Sedges 184
  - Perennial 1215
  - Poisonous 648
  - Rose 219

# Problems to Exclude



Home Find a Plant

Find a Plant

- Landscape
- ▼ Landscape Location
- ▼ Landscape Theme
- ▼ Design Feature
- ▼ Attracts
- ▼ Resistance To Challenges
- ▼ Problems to exclude

Whole Plant Traits

- ▼ Plant Type
- ▼ Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics
- ▼ Habit/Form

## Problems to exclude

- Allelopathic 13
- Contact Dermatitis 197
- Frequent Disease Problems 61
- Frequent Insect Problems 53
- Invasive Species 132
- Malodorous 48
- Messy 115
- Poisonous to Humans 509
- Problem for Cats 554
- Problem for Children 126
- Problem for Dogs 551
- Problem for Horses 613
- Short-lived 47
- Spines/Thorns 143
- Weak Wood 26
- Weedy 559

Cilicica Fir. Svrian Fir. Taurus Fir



Hello Kathleen | Log out  
 Search Search

- Invasive Species
- Weedy
- Frequent Disease Problems
- Frequent Insect Problems



s/Varieties

2 Cultivars/Varieties

*Abies concolor*

*Abies concolor*

*Abies firma*

Abeto Del Colorado, Balsam Fir,

'Compacta'

Japanese Fir. Momi Fir

# Plant These Instead:

Alternatives to Invasive Woody Species  
Commonly Planted in Piedmont Landscapes




# Invasive Trees

## Callery Pear

*Pyrus calleryana*

- Cultivars include: Bradford, Aristocrat, Capital, Chanticleer, Cleveland Select
- Widely planted since the 1960s
- Cultivars cross-pollinate, develop fruits with viable seed

[Learn more](#)

 This plant is an invasive species in North Carolina



[Bradford Pear](#)

Dan Tenaglia, [Missouriplants.com](http://Missouriplants.com), [Bugwood.org](http://Bugwood.org)

[CC BY-NC 3.0 US](#)

# Not Recommended!



**Only last 10-20 years; Dense branching structure results in trees that self-destruct with age, wind, and ice**

David J. Moorhead, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

[CC BY-NC 3.0 US](#)



**Invasive throughout the eastern US**

James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org

[CC BY 3.0 US](#)

Learn more:

[National Park Service – Callery Pear,](#)

[UGA Invasive Plant Atlas,](#)

[NC State Going Native](#)

# Plant These Instead

Choose the right plant for the site | Plant diversity



Okame Cherry

*Prunus 'Okame'*

Famartin, [CC BY-SA 4.0](#)



Spring Glow Cornelian Cherry

*Cornus mas 'Spring Glow'*

Image by Charlotte Glen



Trident Maple

*Acer buergerianum*

Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)

# Native Flowering Trees

## Redbud

### *Cercis canadensis*

- Early blooms great for pollinators
- Leaf-cutter bees often collect nesting material from foliage
- Protect from deer when young
- Hardy zones 4-9

Images:

Tree, Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)

Flowers, Fredlyfish4, [CC BY-SA 4.0](#)

Leaf cutter bee damage, Marisa Back, [CC BY 2.0](#)

['Flame Thrower'](#), C. Glen, NC State





# Serviceberry

*Amelanchier arborea*

*Amelanchier x grandiflora*

- Deciduous small tree for moist, well-drained soil
- 15'-25' tall, often with multiple trunks
- Blooms early spring, nectar source for pollinators
- Early fruit source for birds



Fall color

North Carolina

# Extension Gardener

Plant Toolbox

- Home
- Find a Plant**
- Identify a Plant
- Design Gallery
- Help
- Give Now
- Contact

## Find a Plant

### Cultural Conditions

- Light
- Soil Texture
- Soil pH
- Soil Drainage
- Available Space To Plant
- NC Region
- USDA Plant Hardiness Zone

### Landscape

- Landscape Location
- Landscape Theme
- Design Feature
- Attracts
- Resistance To Challenges
- Problems to exclude

### Whole Plant Traits

- Plant Type
- Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics

## Explore More Plants!

Landscape > Design Feature >

Small Tree

Flowering Tree

Whole Plant Traits >

Plant Type >

Native Plant

[View search results](#) (24 plants)

### Narrow your search:

- NC region
- Light
- Soil conditions
- Native
- Wildlife attracted
- Resistance to challenges
- And many more attributes!

# Invasive Evergreen Shrubs

## Privet, *Ligustrum*

Hardy, medium to large, evergreen shrubs often planted for screening that are [invasive](#) throughout the Southeast

- [Explore Ligustrum species](#)

### Most commonly planted:

- **Chinese Ligustrum**, *Ligustrum sinense* – especially variegated forms
- **Japanese Ligustrum**, *Ligustrum japonicum*

 This plant is an invasive species in North Carolina



ID tip: Ligustrum species have opposite leaves

Both produce abundant panicles of small white flowers in spring, followed by black berries that ripen in fall



Chinese Privet, *Ligustrum sinense*

Smaller leaves

Image by James H. Miller & Ted Bodner, Southern Weed Science Society, [Bugwood.org](http://Bugwood.org), [CC BY-NC 3.0 US](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/us/)



Japanese Privet, *Ligustrum japonicum*

Larger, glossy leaves

Images by - Right: Nancy Loewenstein, Auburn University, [Bugwood.org](http://Bugwood.org), [CC BY-NC 3.0 US](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/us/); Left: James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, [Bugwood.org](http://Bugwood.org), [CC BY-NC 3.0 US](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/us/)

# Plant These Instead: Alternatives for Shady Locations



## Cleyera

*Ternstroemia gymnanthera*

Sun or shade, drought tolerant and deer resistant!

Images by Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/)



## Linebacker™ Distylium

*Distylium* 'PIIDIST-IV'

Best in part shade, well-drained soil

Image source: [First Editions Plants](https://www.firsteditionsplants.com/)

# Evergreen Hollies

- Sun to part shade
- Drought tolerant when established
- Moderate growth rate, long-lived
- *Ilex cornuta* cultivars & hybrids
  - [Nellie R. Stevens](#)
  - [Needlepoint](#)
  - [Dwarf Burford Holly](#)
  - [Emily Brunner](#)
  - [Mary Nell](#)
  - [Oakleaf](#)



Nellie Stevens hollies – Not sheared  
Image by Charlotte Glen

# SE Native Alternatives to Ligustrum



## Florida Anise Tree

*Illicium floridanum*

Best in shade, moist acidic soil.

Image left: David Stang, [CC BY-SA 4.0](#)

Image right: Scott Zona, [CC BY-NC 2.0](#)



## 'Savannah'

Image: Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)



## 'Fosters'

Image: Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)

## *Ilex x attenuata*

Naturally occurring and controlled crosses between *I. cassine* and [I. opaca](#),  
American holly



Find a Plant

Cultural Conditions

- Light
- Soil Texture
- Soil pH
- Soil Drainage
- Available Space To Plant
- NC Region
- USDA Plant Hardiness Zone

Landscape

- Landscape Location
- Landscape Theme
- Design Feature
- Attracts
- Resistance To Challenges
- Problems to exclude

Whole Plant Traits

- Plant Type
- Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics

## Explore More Plants!

### Cultural Conditions

- > Available Space to Plant
  - 6 – 12 feet

### Whole Plant Traits

- > Plant Type
  - Shrub
- > Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics
  - Broadleaf evergreen

[View these search results](#) (147 plants)

If also select Plant Type > Native, reduces to [21 results](#)



# Invasive Evergreen Shrubs

## Nandina

*Nandina domestica*

Aka: Heavenly Bamboo

- Upright, evergreen shrub with bi- to tri-pinnately compound leaves
- Grows in sun or shade
- Grown for foliage texture and berries
- Berries contain cyanide

[Recent study](#) linked overconsumption of the berries by Cedar Waxwings to their death via cyanide toxicity

**i** This plant is an invasive species in North Carolina



Nandina fruits,

Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)



Flower Buds (Wake County,NC) - Early May.

Cathy Dewitt, [CC BY 4.0](#)

# Related Invasive Shrubs in the Barberry Family (Berberidaceae)



## Leatherleaf Mahonia

*Berberis bealei*

Jim the Photographer, CC BY 2.0



## Barberry

*Berberis thunbergii*

Alpsdake, [CC BY-SA 3.0](#)

**i** This plant is an invasive species in North Carolina

## Plant These Instead

# Sterile Nandina Varieties

Dwarf, wide leaf varieties that do not fruit

- Firepower
- Pink Blush™

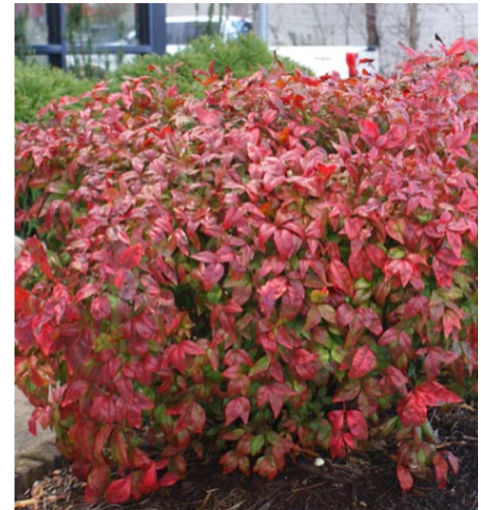
Narrow-leaf dwarf varieties reported to be sterile (?)

Left to right:

- Flirt
- Obsession
- Lemon-Lime



Firepower in summer



Firepower in winter



# For colorful berries: American Beautyberry

*Callicarpa americana*

Native to eastern NC & SE US

Deciduous leaves, cut back in winter



NOTE: Make sure you have the right species. Asian *Callicarpa* species have been reported invasive in other SE states

- [Callicarpa japonica](#)
- [Callicarpa dichotoma](#)

# Possumhaw Viburnum

## *Viburnum nudum*

- Native to the eastern U.S. and throughout NC
- Grows 6–10' tall and wide
- Tolerates flooding, sun or part shade
- Deciduous shrub, reddish-purple fall color
- Spring flowers followed by fruits that ripen in later summer and fall, turning from pink to blue and eaten by songbirds



## Inkberry, *Ilex glabra*

Native NC coastal plain & piedmont; Deer resistant  
Most cultivars are female but will only set fruit if male plants are nearby



**'Shamrock'**

Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)



Flowers - Mary Keim,  
[CC BY-NC-SA 2.0](#)



Fruits occur on female plants -  
John Brandauer, [CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](#)



**Strongbox<sup>®</sup>**



**Gem Box<sup>®</sup>**

New dwarf,  
compact,  
varieties:  
Strongbox<sup>®</sup>  
Gem Box<sup>®</sup>  
2-3' x 2-3'

**'Nigra'** is a similar commercially  
available, compact cultivar

Images courtesy of Proven Winners - [www.provenwinners.com](http://www.provenwinners.com)

## Invasive Deciduous Shrubs

### Burning Bush, *Euonymus alatus*

- Native to eastern Russia, Japan, China, Korea
- Able to establish in forests, fields, roadsides
- Birds and wildlife eat and disperse seeds

### Butterfly Bush, *Buddleja davidii*

- Grown for fragrant summer flowers that attract butterflies
- Native to Asia
- More common in NC mountains and western Piedmont

**i** This plant is an invasive species in North Carolina



*Euonymus alatus*

[Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut,](#)  
[Bugwood.org, CC BY 3.0 US](#)



*Buddlejah davidii*

Jim Lawrence, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)

# Native Shrubs for Fragrance

## Carolina Allspice, Sweet Betsy

*Calycanthus floridus*

Flowers in spring, pt shade



'Athens' Flower close-up,  
Randy Harter, [CC BY 4.0](#)

Flower and leaves,  
Randy Harter, [CC BY 4.0](#)

## Sweet Pepperbush

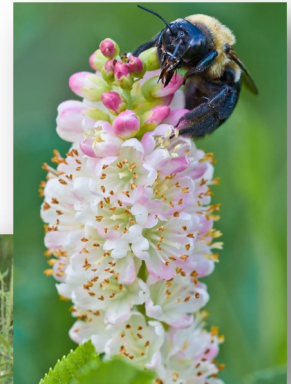
*Clethra alnifolia*

Flowers in summer, sun-pt shade



Clethra in bloom: Rachel Foyst, [CC BY-SA 2.0](#)

Flower with bee: John D., [CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](#)





# Southeastern Native Shrubs for Fall Color

Oakleaf Hydrangea,  
*Hydrangea quercifolia*



Part shade, moist but well drained soil, showy summer flowers

Image by K M, [CC BY 2.0](#)

'Mt. Airy' Fothergilla,  
*Fothergilla 'Mt. Airy'*



Sun to part shade, average soil, fragrant spring flowers, deer resistant

Image by Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)

Virginia Sweetspire,  
*Itea virginica*



Sun to part shade, wet to average soil, fragrant spring flowers, deer like it

Image by Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)

# Blueberries!

## Vaccinium species

At least 17 species native to NC, all require acidic soil and produce edible fruit

Rabbiteye varieties (*Vaccinium virgatum*) are the most adaptable

### Recommended varieties for NC

(for fruit production plant 2 different cultivars):

- Early: Premier (self-fruitful), Climax
- Mid: Tifblue
- Late: Powderblue, Onslow

[Learn more about growing blueberries in NC](#)





Find a Plant

**Cultural Conditions**

- Light
- Soil Texture
- Soil pH
- Soil Drainage
- Available Space To Plant
- NC Region
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Landscape

- Landscape Location
- Landscape Theme
- Design Feature
- Attracts
- Resistance To Challenges
- Problems to exclude

**Whole Plant Traits**

- Plant Type
- Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics

## Explore More Plants!

### Cultural Conditions

> Available Space to Plant

6 – 12 feet

### Whole Plant Traits

> Plant Type

Shrub

> Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics

Deciduous

### Leaves

> Deciduous Leaf Fall Color

Red/Burgundy

[View these search results](#)

63 plants

# Invasive Vines

## Japanese honeysuckle, *Lonicera japonica*

- Fragrant, late spring flowering vine
- Common throughout SE, woodland edge and low areas
- Will spread along the ground until it finds trees, shrubs to climb



Japanese Honeysuckle

Image by Chris Evans, University of Illinois,  
Bugwood.org, [CC BY-NC 3.0 US](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/)

**i** This plant is an invasive species in North Carolina

# Other Invasive Vines to Avoid



[Chinese Wisteria](#), *Wisteria sinensis*  
[Japanese Wisteria](#), *Wisteria floribunda*

Image by Chris Evans, University of Illinois,  
Bugwood.org, [CC BY-NC 3.0 US](#)



[Sweet Autumn Clematis](#)/  
[Japanese Clematis](#)  
*Clematis terniflora*

Image by Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of  
Connecticut, Bugwood.org, [CC BY-NC 3.0 US](#)



[English Ivy](#),  
*Hedera helix*

Image by Chuck Barger, University  
of Georgia, Bugwood.org,  
[CC BY-NC 3.0 US](#)

## Plant These Instead! **Vines for Sun**



### Coral Honeysuckle, *Lonicera sempervirens*

Native | Spring flowering | Semi-evergreen | Sun-part shade | Climbs 10'+  
Not fragrant but hummingbirds love it!

Images by Charlotte Glen

## Vines for Sun | More Natives



**Fragrant!**

[Carolina Jessamine](#),  
*Gelsemium sempervirens*

Image by Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)



[Crossvine](#),  
*Bignonia capreolata*

This is the cultivar 'Tangerine Beauty'

Image by Charlotte Glen

## Plant These Instead! Vines for Full Shade

Japanese Hydrangea Vine  
*Hydrangea hydrangeoides*



Images by Mark Weathington [JCRA](#)



**'Moonlight' cultivar**

Image by Jim Robbins, [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)

Climbing Hydrangea,  
*Hydrangea barbara* - native



Image by Cliftonia, [CC0 1.0](#)

Both are deciduous and tolerate full shade but will produce more blooms in dappled or part-shade



North Carolina

## Extension Gardener

Plant Toolbox

[Home](#) [Find a Plant](#) [Identify a Plant](#) [Design Gallery](#) [Help](#) [Give Now](#) [Contact](#)

## Find a Plant

## Cultural Conditions

- Light
- Soil Texture
- Soil pH
- Soil Drainage
- Available Space To Plant
- NC Region
- USDA Plant Hardiness Zone

## Landscape

- Landscape Location
- Landscape Theme
- Design Feature
- Attracts
- Resistance To Challenges
- Problems to exclude

## Whole Plant Traits

- Plant Type
- Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics

## Explore More Vines!

### Cultural Conditions

> USDA Plant Hardiness Zone

7a

### Landscape

> Problems to exclude

Weedy

Invasive species

### Whole Plant Traits

> Plant Type

Vine

[View these  
search results](#)

93 plants

# Become Familiar with Invasives

There is not a unified list of invasive plants for NC.

## Resources include:

- Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox - [invasive plant profiles](#)
- [Plant These Instead archive](#) - alternatives to invasive plants
- [NC Invasive Plant Council](#) – lists species by NC region
- NC Native Plant Society, [Invasive Exotic Species List](#) – species ranked by threat level
- USDA Forest Service – [Nonnative Invasive Plants of Southern Forests](#)
- [Invasive Plant Atlas](#) – partners include USDA and National Park Service
- [EDDMaps](#) (UGA) – tracks new and emerging invasive species

# Questions?

Review these slides:

[go.ncsu.edu/invasives-pti](https://go.ncsu.edu/invasives-pti)

Learn more about the

[NC State Extension Master Gardener program](https://go.ncsu.edu/master-gardener-program)



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Learn more: [go.ncsu.edu/ncemg-endowment](https://go.ncsu.edu/ncemg-endowment)

Donate online: [go.ncsu.edu/support-ncemgv](https://go.ncsu.edu/support-ncemgv)

# Thanks & More Information

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