



PLAIN
FLORA

Maleberry

Lyonia ligustrina

STATUS

Endangered 

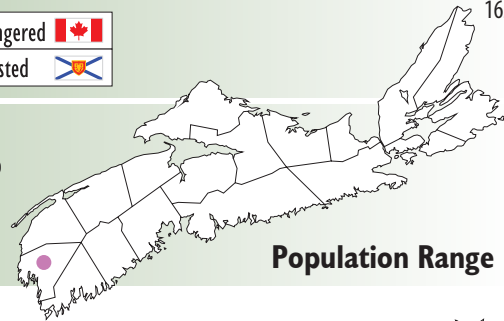
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163



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Maleberry is only known to occur on the shore of one lake in Yarmouth County.



Population Range

Habitat

Occurs in acidic wetlands. The only known occurrence is in an open, peaty lakeshore Red Maple swamp.

Species Description

Maleberry is a deciduous broad-leaved, woody shrub that can grow to a height of 4.5 m. It has oval-shaped leaves that are 2-9 cm long, pointed at both ends, and slightly toothed or smooth-margined. Petals are 4 mm in length, and fuse to form small, vase-shaped white flowers that narrow toward the tip. Flowers grow on short stalks along an elongated axis. The fruit is a globe-shaped woody capsule, comprised of 5 parts that split open upon ripening and remain on the plant until the following growing season.



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In Canada, Maleberry is only known to occur along one lake in Nova Scotia. Flowers can be observed in mid to late July.





Interesting Points

- It produces resin that is poisonous to humans and animals.
- The only known Canadian occurrence of Maleberry, discovered in 2011, occurs on a property protected by the Nova Scotia Nature Trust.
- It can regrow by sending up new shoots when burned by fire.



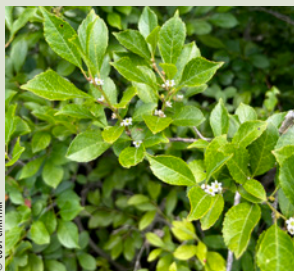
Flowers

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Similar Species

Winterberry:

Similar in height, red fruit, serrated margins on leaves, flowers have 5- white petals.



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Oval-shaped leaves

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Threats to Survival

- Encroachment of invasive species including Glossy Buckthorn.
- Unauthorized off-highway vehicle usage and associated brush clearing.



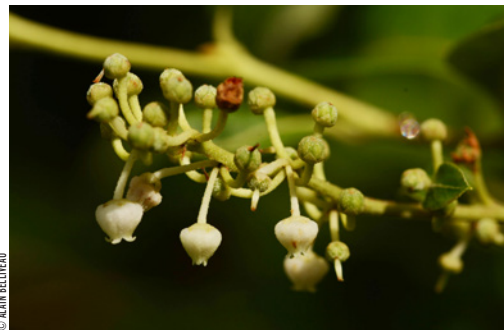
How You Can Help

Remove and properly dispose of Glossy Buckthorn and other invasives on your property. Learn more in the Invasive Alien Species Guide (page vii).



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Invasive Glossy Buckthorn



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Information, Sighting Reports & Stewardship

Sighting Reports: Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre accdc.com/en/contribute.html; NS Department of Natural Resources: biodiversity@novascotia.ca

Info: sararegistry.gc.ca

Stewardship: MTRI: info@merseytobeatic.ca; www.nsnr.ca/jack-and-darlene-stone-conservation-lands/ 164