

***Amelanchier laevis* - Juneberry**

COMMON NAME: Juneberry, Serviceberry, Shadbush Saskatoon

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Amelanchier laevis* – comes from the French name for a similar plant in the Provence and *laevis* from Latin meaning "smooth, free of hairs"

FLOWER: Drooping clusters of 5 petal snowy white flowers

BLOOMING PERIOD: Late April, early May

SIZE: A small tree up to 25 feet tall, often with multiple trunks

BEHAVIOR: Grows much like a tree and does not form thickets. The bark is smooth and gray.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Tolerant of a wide variety of soils, but probably does best on well drained, acid sandy or gravelly soils with adequate moisture. Flowers and fruits best in full sun, but does quite well in light shade. Not tolerant of salt, drought or soil compaction.

NATURAL RANGE: Newfoundland west to Ontario, south to Delaware and mountains of Georgia, west to southern Indiana, Illinois and Iowa. Occurs throughout Wisconsin.

SPECIAL FEATURES: The delicate blossoms come early before the leaves. Then the reddish purple fruit develops as a cluster of small edible berries. The berries make excellent jams, jellies and pies, but birds (and even chipmunks) may get them first. The fall color is brick red. With delicate silvery branches and twigs in winter this is truly an all season plant.

SUGGESTED CARE: Plant carefully with a ball of soil to disturb the roots as little as possible. Water well during the first year and protect from rabbits during the winter.

COMPANION PLANTS: Black oak, Pennsylvania sedge, black cherry, gray dogwood, wild geranium, and Solomon's plume