



## ***Cornus amomum, oblique* – Silky Dogwood**

COMMON NAME: Silky Dogwood

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Cornus amomum*, subspecies *oblique* *Cornus* comes from the Latin for “horn” and refers to the hardness of the wood

FLOWER COLOR: white

BLOOMING PERIOD: Mid to late June

SIZE: Large multi-stemmed shrub up to ten feet high with an equal, arching spread.

BEHAVIOR: Doesn’t sucker like Gray Dogwood.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Tolerant of a wide variety of sites. Does best in full sun or partial shade and on rich (mesic) to moist soils that are neutral to slightly alkaline.

NATURAL RANGE: Northeastern U.S. and southern Canada, south and west to Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Arkansas, Oklahoma and North Dakota. Occurs in southern and west-central Wisconsin, most frequently in southern moist forests.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Dark, reddish purple stems. Late bloom. Blue-black berries mature in mid-summer and are quickly consumed by a variety of birds, squirrels and other woodland mammals. Autumn color is often green to chartreuse, but can be reddish-yellow, reddish-orange, or reddish-purple in good year.

SUGGESTED CARE: Water regularly during the first weeks after planting. Should establish itself quickly. Protect from mice, rabbits and deer. Older plantings can be rejuvenated by renewal pruning.

COMPANION PLANTS: Wild strawberry, black chokeberry, New England aster, turtlehead, common boneset, Turk’s cap lily, starry Solomon’s seal, wild Virginia rye, jack-in-the-pulpit, calico aster.