

Botanical Name: Cornus stolonifera

Common Name: Dogwood, Red-Osier Dogwood

Type of Plant: dicot: shrub Character deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape upright to widely spreading, with many slender bright red-purple stems forming large, loosely rounded canopy; becomes almost thicket-like with age; tips of branches tend to root when in contact with soil.

Height 5' - 15' Spread equal or more Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors partial sun preferred; tolerates full sun near the coast

Soil prefers moist soils; tolerates wet poorly-drained clay

Hardiness hardy (zones 1-9, 14-21): prefers foothill riparian sites

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, mostly opposite, lanceolate-elliptic or ovate;

2" - 4" long, bright green, minutely hairy on underside; leaves turn bright red-bronze in colder areas in fall

Flowers creamy white, 4-petaled, tiny (1/8" - 1/4" across), in

flattened 2" - 3" cymes; terminal; June - September

Fruit drupe: tiny, white or bluish

Propagation: seed, hardwood cuttings

Usage: a fast-growing background mass or screen planting, useful

for wet soils in somewhat shaded areas; valued for its heavy flower production

and foliage color in fall; good for erosion control

Landscape Care:

Watering regular is preferred; tolerates heavy; the plant is not drought-tolerant except in shaded habitats

Fertilizing little is needed after established

Pruning head back and thin to keep in bounds (can be invasive);
prune after blooming period

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions _____

Origin: CA - Wash. Family: Cornaceae