

Vaccinium corymbosum

Highbush Blueberry

Native to Maine

Upland Forests, Fields, and Developed Areas

Leaves



Aleksadra Majewska, www.flickr.com



Look for glossy green leaves (up to 5 cm) that are oval with hairy undersides and smooth edges. The leaves alternate on the stem.

Plant



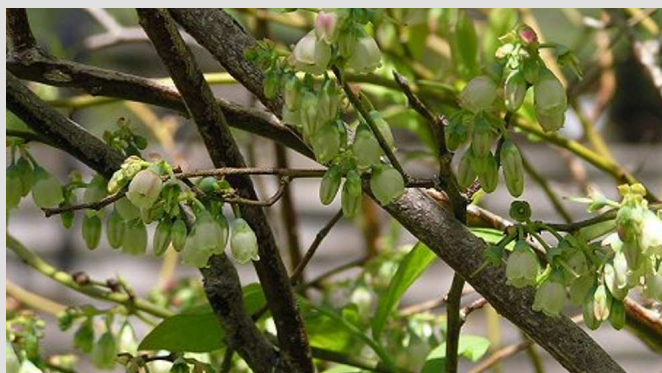
Lindley Ashline, www.flickr.com



Look for an upright shrub with lots of stems. It grows up to 3.5 m tall. Look for bright red leaves after August.

| LEAF ARRANGEMENT | LEAF TYPE | LEAF/LEAFLET SHAPE | LEAF/LEAFLET EDGE |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| ALTERNATE | SIMPLE | PALMATE | SMOOTH |
| OPPOSITE | COMPOUND-PALMATE | OVAL | TOOTHED |
| WHORLED | COMPOUND-PINNATE | ROUND | WAVY |

Stem



Lindley Ashline, www.flickr.com



Look for bark that is gray-brown to reddish-brown and covered with small wart-like dots.

Seasonal Change



Anita Gould, www.flickr.com



From May to June look for tiny white bell-shaped flowers in small clusters. By mid-July look for dark blue berries. In the Fall the leaves turn a deep red.

www.vitalsignsme.org

Similar Species

The Highbush Blueberry has larger leaves and berries than the Lowbush Blueberry. It can form bushes up to 3.5 m tall and grow in swamps, pastures, and the woods whereas the Lowbush Blueberry grows only in dry open areas and never grows more than 40 cm tall.

Fun Fact

The Highbush Blueberry is also known by other names such as Whortleberry, Swamp Blueberry, Farkleberry, and Cowberry. Native Americans and English settlers boiled them with sugar to make a sauce to eat with their meat.