

Serviceberry *Amelanchier arborea*

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Rosales

Family: Rosaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

Serviceberry is also known as shadbush, downy serviceberry and Juneberry. This small tree grows to about 20 feet tall and a maximum trunk diameter of eight inches. It may have several trunks. The crown of the tree is rounded. The bark in young trees is smooth and silvery, becoming darker with loose scales as it ages. The leaves are alternate, simple and lance-shaped. Leaves are finely toothed along the edges and often hairy on the underside. A leaf may be up to four inches long and two inches wide. The flowers are white, each with five petals. Flowers are present in clusters before the leaves unfurl. The fruits are spherical, red-purple and up to one-fourth inch in diameter. Each fruit contains one or two seeds. The wood is hard and red-brown.

BEHAVIORS

Serviceberry grows on wooded slopes and the edge of cliffs in upland deciduous forests. It blooms from March through May. The wood is used for tool handles and fuel. The fruits are eaten by wildlife species.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

none

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