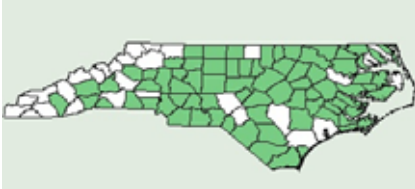


## **BUTTON BUSH**

*Cephalanthus occidentalis L.*

**Striking, creamy white flowers attract butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. Also called buttonball, button willow, honeybells globe flower and river bush.**



**Description:** A tall deciduous shrub that produces compact ball-shaped heads of white tubular flowers. Leaves are broad, entire, and either opposite or whorled.

**Natural Habitat:** Commonly grows in thickets along the margins of streams, sloughs, lakes, swamps, and in marshes and similar wet areas throughout much of the U.S.

**Conservation Status:** Threatened in California.

**Size:** 3-9' high

**Growth Rate:** Fast.

**Light:** Full sun.

**Planting and Care:** Grows best in wet areas. Can't tolerate drought.

**Ornamental Value:** Striking creamy white flowers shaped in a ball or button, hence the name.

**Landscape Usage:** In masses can be used to control erosion along stream banks. Pruned, it can be used as a border.

**Commercial/Traditional Uses:** Native Americans used the inner bark as an emetic and as a substitute for quinine. Toxic if eaten.

**Wildlife Benefits:** Flowers attract bees, butterflies and humming birds.