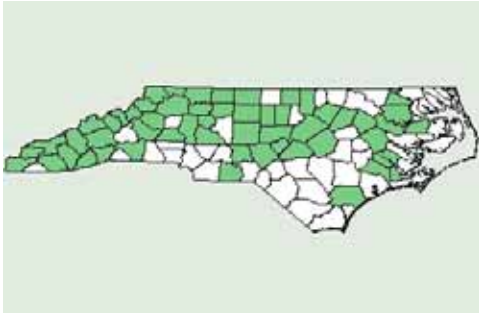


SPICEBUSH Lindera benzoin

Shrub with aromatic stems and leaves, red stems and red fall foliage.



Description: A broad, rounded multi-stemmed shrub covered with fragrant yellow-green flowers in early spring. The flowers open before the leaves emerge and are held close to the branches. Aromatic light green leaves turn deep yellow-gold in fall. When crushed the leaves give off a lemon scent reminiscent of "Pledge" furniture polish.

Natural Habitat: Types of places they grow in NC.

Conservation Status: Maine - Special Concern

Size: 6 to 12 ft.

Growth Rate: Slow

Light: Sun to part shade

Planting and Care: moist, well-drained, organic-rich soil

Ornamental Value: Nice red to yellow fall foliage with bright red fruit in September.

Landscape Usage: It is a large shrub making it suited as a specimen planting, or in the back of a shrub border. Ideally located next to ponds and streams, or in naturalized woodland gardens.

Commercial/Traditional Uses: Natives used the aromatic leaves and twigs in a tea to treat ailments such as cough, cramps, measles and anemia. The dried berries can be powdered and used as a spice.

Wildlife Benefits: Foliage consumed by swallowtail butterflies. Red fruit is attractive to songbirds.