

SUMMERSWEET

Clethra alnifolia

AKA Coastal Sweetpepper Bush- Flowers have a sweet-spicy, slight pungent fragrance and is salt spray tolerant.



Description: An upright hardy deciduous, multi-stemmed shrub. Fragrant white to light pink flowers appear July - August.

Natural Habitat: in moist woodland areas, especially near water

Conservation Status: Maine- Special

Concern; Tennessee - Threatened

Size: 5-8' tall; 4-6' wide

Growth Rate: Moderate.

Light: Full sun to part shade

Planting and Care: Carefree - Prefers acidic soil with organic matter. Prune in spring to remove winter kill or to promote compactness, or rejuvenate. Blooms occur on current seasons growth. Ideal as an ocean-side planting due to tolerating salt spray.

Ornamental Value: Bright yellow-green to golden autumn foliage

Landscape Usage: Used as a screening plant, specimen, in groupings, border. Plant so the fragrance can be appreciated. Ideal in a naturalistic/native garden.

Wildlife Benefits: attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds; fruit attracts birds