

Viburnum rufidulum

Rusty blackhaw



Sources:

Natural Resources Conservation Service. *PLANTS Database*. United States Department of Agriculture.

NC State. *North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox*.

The Honeysuckle Family (Caprifoliaceae)

Rusty blackhaw is a deciduous multi-stemmed shrub or small single-stemmed tree native to eastern and central U. S. It grows in dry to moist loams in full sun to partial shade slowly reaching a height and width of 10 to 20 feet.

Habitat:

It is found in rocky or dry woodlands and forests along streams and valleys.

Interesting Facts:

The name comes from the rusty brown hairs on the undersides of leaves, buds and stems.

Fruit:

Its fruit is 3/8-inch-long oval dark blue fruits in clusters that ripen September to October.

Flower:

Flowers appear from March to April in 5-inch wide rounded cymes of tiny flowers. Individual flowers are 1/4 inch across with long stamens.

Wildlife value:

It is a host plant for the spring/summer Azure butterflies. Its fruits are eaten by songbirds, squirrels, and chipmunks. It is moderately deer resistant.