

TREES *of* BC

Arbutus

(*Arbutus menziesii*)



Bark

The bark is thin, smooth, and reddish-brown; peeling in thin flakes or strips to expose younger, smooth, greenish to cinnamon-red bark underneath.

Leaves

Dark and glossy but pale underneath; 7 to 12 centimetres long, thick, with a leathery texture.

Flowers and Fruit

Dense clusters of urn-shaped white, waxy flowers drooping at the ends of twigs in April and May. The flowers have a strong honey smell and are very attractive to bees. The fruit is berry-like, 7 millimetres across, and bright reddish-orange, with a peel-like surface texture.

Habitat

Arbutus is found on sites that lack moisture such as those with rocky or rapidly drained soils. It does not like shade, so it generally occurs in clearings or on open rocky bluffs with other species such as Garry oak, Douglas-fir, Oceanspray, Oregon-grape, Baldhip rose, and several herbs and grasses. The Arbutus is the only native broad-leaved evergreen in Canada.

Garry oak

(*Quercus garryana*)



Bark

Greyish-black bark with thick grooves and scales.

Leaves

Deeply lobed leaves are bright green and glossy above and paler with red to yellow hairs underneath. The leaves turn brown in the fall. Leaves often have bumps caused by gall wasps.

Flowers and Fruit

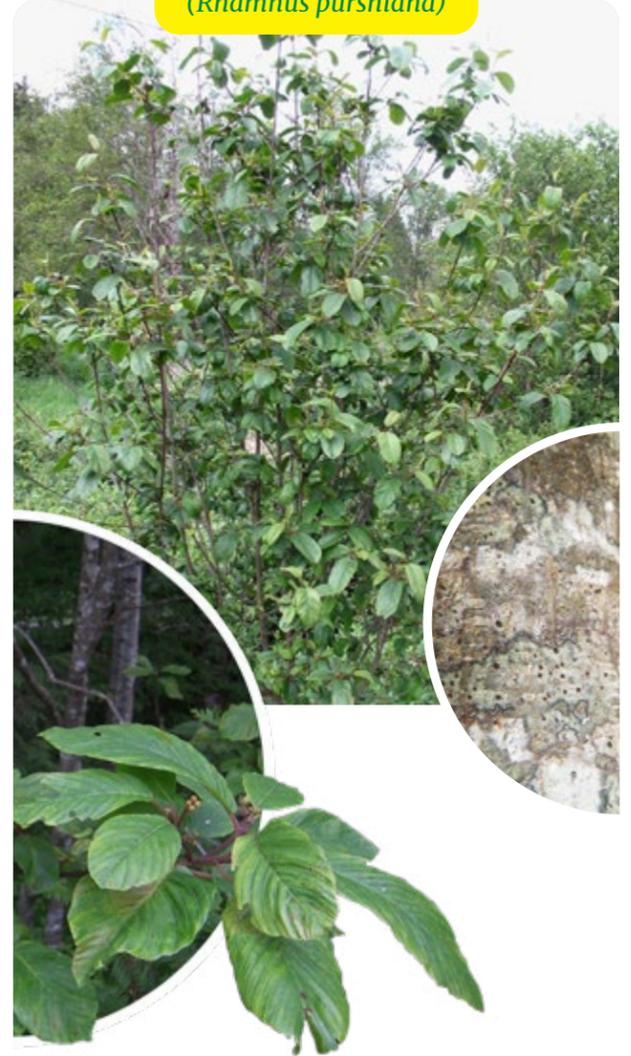
Acorns are small in size with a shallow scaly cup on one end.

Habitat

Garry oak forms open parkland and meadows that are scattered with Douglas-fir and a lush spring display of herbs such as Camas, Easter lilies, Western buttercups, and Shootingstars. These meadows are threatened by urban development. A diverse bird community makes its home in Garry oak meadows, as well as numerous mammals and insects.

Cascara

(*Rhamnus purshiana*)



Bark

Thin, dark greyish-brown; smooth when young and becomes scaly with age. A cut in the bark reveals a bright yellow inner bark that turns dark brown on exposure to air and light.

Leaves

Alternate, oblong leaves have fine teeth along their edges and prominent veins running parallel to the sides. It is the only deciduous tree in the province whose buds are not covered by bud scales in the winter.

Flowers and Fruit

Nondescript, greenish flowers, clustered near ends of branches. Fruits with purplish-black berries.

Habitat

Cascara grows under conifers on rich, well-drained soils with plentiful summer moisture. Streamsides and wet areas are favourite locations.

30 m



PROVINCIAL RANGE



20 m



PROVINCIAL RANGE



10 m



PROVINCIAL RANGE

