



Glossy Buckthorn

Frangula alnus



The Henry L. Ferguson
MUSEUM



Appearance

large shrub or small tree up to 30 ft. (9.1 m).
bark is gray to brown with white lenticels

Foliage

shiny dark leaves which alternate (sometimes opposite)
smooth leaf edge, prominent venation

Flowers

present May-September
inconspicuous, pale greenish-yellow to yellow
clustered in leaf axis

Fruit

ripe beginning in July through September
ripens from red to a dark purple or black

Ecological Threat

native to Europe
invasive throughout Northeast and Midwest
invades moist woodlands and disturbed areas
forms dense thickets outcompeting native plants