



Oriental Bittersweet
Celastrus orbiculatus



The Henry L. Ferguson
MUSEUM



Appearance

perennial deciduous, climbing, woody vine

60 ft. (18.3 m) long, 4 in. (10 cm) in diameter.

striated bark, brown to dark brown.

smooth glabrous twigs, light grey to dark brown

Foliage

light green, alternate, elliptical to circular leaves

2-5 in. (5-13 cm) long

Flowers

present May to early June

small, inconspicuous, axillary, greenish-white

Fruit

green; ripen to yellow; then split to reveal scarlet berries

Ecological Threat

native to China

vines cover, shade and outcompete other vegetation

girdle and kill large trees.