

# Flowers and Grasses





Perennial, 40 to 120 cm tall, rhizomatous, soft greyish-hairy throughout

Pink to reddish-purple 5 petal flowers, fruits are hairy pods

Common at low elevations and dry climates. Open areas, full sun

\*This plant is vital to the Monarch Butterfly for both food and reproduction.



#### **Red Columbine**

Tap-rooted, perennial, up to 1 meter tall.

Irregular, red sepals and yellow petals, fruits are clusters of 5 erect capsules

Widespread and common at low to subalpine elevations in moist, open forests and meadows

\*attracts butterflies and hummingbirds



#### **Balsam Root**

Perennial, 20 to 80 cm tall. Aromatic woody taproot and branches stem base

Bright yellow ray flowers and yellow disc flowers

Wide spread in mid to low elevations in hot arid climates

\*All parts of this plant are edible.

# **Flowers and Grasses**



#### **Idaho Fescue**

Perennial Bunchgrass, 30- 90 cm tall

Low to subalpine elevations in grasslands on north facing slopes

\*excellent forage for livestock and wildlife. Providing green feed longer into the late season.



## **Great Basin Wild Rye**

Perennial, 1 meter broad, 1 to 2 meters high

Forms clumps

Found in grasslands, open forests where subsurface moisture is present

\*provides excellent surface erosion control and soil stabilization and can be a valuable restoration species wherever moisture is adequate..

# Flowers and Grasses



## **Blue Elder Berry**

Deciduous shrub to small tree 2—4 meters tall

Small white to creamy flowers in flat top clusters. Fruits in clusters of juicy round powder blue edible berries.

Moist to mesic sites in valley bottoms, on mountain slopes, and water ways

\*an important food source for birds.



# **Blue Bunch Wheatgrass**

Perennial Bunchgrass 60 to 100 cm tall

Many stems form large clump

Widespread in dry open forests and grasslands at low elevations

\*Considered one of the most important forage grass species on western rangelands for both livestock and wildlife



### **Snow Berry**

Deciduous shrub, 1 to 2 meters tall

Pink to white flowers

Fruits are clusters of white berry like droops. POISONOUS

Found in dry to moist open forests, thickets, rocky slopes, river terraces, and ravines

\*berries can remain on the plant through winter, providing an important food source for birds



## Chokecherry

Deciduous shrub, 1 to 4 m tall

Small white flowers with 5 round pedals

Faintly scented

Fruits are red to purple shiny cherries, edible, but not tasty



#### **Douglas Fir**

Large, up to 70 m tall

Yellow-green leaves

Small reddish brown cones

Dry low elevation sites to moist montane sites







#### **Golden Currant**

Deciduous shrub, 2 to 3 m tall.

Leaves are green turning red in autumn

Golden yellow flowers bloom in spring

Fragrant

Tart edible berries

\*food source for birds

**Mock Orange** 

Deciduous shrub, up to 3 m tall

4 oblong showy white peddles on flowers, in clusters

Fragrant

Common in dry to moist climates in moist but well drained soils

\*provides winter browse for hooved animals and many bird species

Tall Oregon Grape

Rhizomatous evergreen shrub,  $60\ cm\ tall$ 

Leathery, spinney leaves.

Bright yellow flowers with edible blue berries

Dry to fairly moist soil. Open to closed forests

\*shade tolerant, provides food for small mammals and birds



#### **Ponderosa Pine**

Conifer, 15 to 30 m tall, 1 to 1.5 m diameter trunk

Evergreen needles in bundles of 3.

Oval conical cones, 8 to 14 cm long.

Draught tolerant

Found in open forests and dry valleys



## **Quaking Aspen**

Deciduous tree, up to 30 m tall

Smooth green-grey waxy bark

Green leaves turn golden yellow to orange in fall

Moist to dry soils, shade tolerant



# **Red Osier Dogwood**

Deciduous shrub, 1 to 4 m tall

Green leaves turn reddish in autumn

Small white to greenish , dense clumps of flowers  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left($ 

Found in swamps, moist uplands, openings and clearings

\*an important riparian habitat that is easily propagated



## **Rocky Mountain Maple**

Small tree, up to 10 m tall

3 lobes leaves are green, turning red and yellow in the autumn

Green-yellow flowers in the spring

Dry to moist soil. Open forests and valleys



## **Service Berry**

Deciduous shrub, 1 to 5 m tall

Large, showy flowers have 5 white pedals

Fruits are dull red turning dark purple to black. Edible and sweet berries

Rocky shores lines, bluffs, talas slopes. Dry to moist open forests, moist well drained soils

\*saskatoon: provides winter browse for hooved animals and many bird species



#### **Smooth Sumac**

Deciduous shrub, up to 3 m tall

Flowers are tiny and green with large pinnacles of edible crimson berries

\*showy fruits and fine autumn colors





#### **Woods Rose**

Deciduous shrub, up to 2 m tall

Pink, small flowers with 5 broad pedals

Fruits are dark red with round to oval fleshy hips

Common in low to mid elevations, on dry pluteus, arid basins, grasslands, and dry open forests

\*browsed by ungulates and livestock

#### **Rabbit Brush**

Compact shrub, up to 1 m tall

Small yellow flowers

Common at low to mid elevations in grasslands and dry, open Douglas Fir and Ponderosa Pine forests

\*provides an early winter food source for ungulates

#### Bitterbrush

Deciduous shrub, 1 to 2 meters tall

Grey to brown bark and twigs covered with dense wooly hairs

Numerous funnel shaped bright yellow flowers

Common at low elevations in dry sage brush grasslands and dry open ponderosa pine forests

Likes sandy soils

\*an important browse for wildlife and livestock



## **Big Sagebrush**

Branching, greyish, evergreen, aromatic shrub, up to 2 m tall.

Small and yellow flowers

Wide spread and common at low to mid elevations in arid grasslands

Intolerant of alkaline soils (pH>8.5)

\*helps prevent erosion; important food source for grouse, deer, jackrabbit, elk, and many small mammals



## **Black Twinberry**

Deciduous shrub, 0.5 to 2 m tall

Flowers are yellow and trumpet shaped.

Fruits are shiny, black twinberries, cupped by two deep purplish maroon bracts

Not considered palatable

Wide spread and often abundant at low to subalpine elevations in areas of wet or moist soil. Found in moist forests, grasslands, or riparian areas.

\*eaten by a variety of animals such as birds, bears ,and small mammals. The flowers are a perfect source of nectar for hummingbirds and butterflies