

WACD PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

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Oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*)

Distribution

Oceanspray is found throughout western North America at low to mid elevations.

Growth Habit

Oceanspray is an upright, multi-stemmed deciduous shrub. It can grow to over 10 feet tall, and spread to over 6 feet wide. In many sites they can spread, creating dense thickets. It's white to cream lilac-like clusters turn brown and produce seed.

Adaptability

Oceanspray is a remarkably adaptable species. It is particularly well suited to rocky slopes that are moist to dry and well drained with partial shade to full sun.

Comments

- Oceanspray is a good conservation species as well as a favored ornamental for landscapes.
- Its dense, matting root system is excellent for soil stabilization.
- Birds feed upon the seeds, which can persist into winter.
- The masses of cream-colored flower clusters are attractive in spring.
- Native peoples used its strong, straight stems for arrow shafts and digging implements.
- Pioneering families fashioned pegs from the stems to use as a substitute for nails in construction projects.

