

WACD PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

16564 Bradley Road, Bow WA 98232

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Red Stem Ceanothus (*Ceanothus sanguineus*)

Distribution

Red Stem Ceanothus can be found growing throughout our region at low to mid-elevations.

Growth Habit

Red Stem Ceanothus is a deciduous shrub that can grow to 4 to 6 feet tall and spread approximately 6 feet wide. The heavily scented white fluffy clusters of small flowers turn into explosive seed capsules.

Adaptability

Red Stem Ceanothus is found on well-drained sites with good exposure to the sun. Grows well in dry fairly open sites along road margins or dry forest clearings.

Comments

- Red Stem Ceanothus is an important wildlife species.
- The seeds that form in the fall persist through the winter, providing an important food source for many species of over-wintering birds and deer also browse upon the stems.
- It is important to note that this plant can be toxic to people.
- While Red Stem Ceanothus is not a viable food source for humans, it does offer ornamental interest to garden spaces.
- The plant produces masses of cream-colored flowers in the spring that are sweetly scented.
- The bark of the new growth is an attractive reddish color.

