

BUFFALO-BERRY (*Shepherdia canadensis*)

Oleaster Family (Elaeagnaceae)

Pennsylvania Endangered

State Rank: S1 (critically imperiled), Global Rank: G5 (secure)

SIGNIFICANCE

The Buffalo-berry has been given a status of Endangered on the Plants of Special Concern in Pennsylvania list by the Pennsylvania Biological Survey and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. It is currently known from fewer than ten locations that are mostly in the extreme northwestern corner of the state.

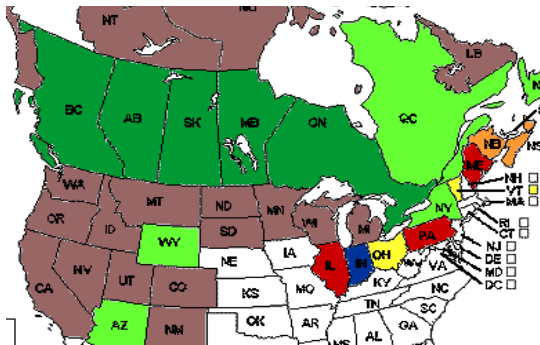
DESCRIPTION

Buffalo-berry is a deciduous shrub. It is easily recognized by the opposite, entire leaves and the presence of reddish scales on the twigs and the stalks and undersurface of the leaves. The flowers are greenish, a few millimeters long, and appear in spring as the leaves emerge. The fruit is a reddish berry that can be found only on female plants. This species is related to and somewhat resembles the group of exotic, invasive shrubs known as “autumn-olive” or “Russian-olive” (genus *Elaeagnus*), but the latter plants have alternate leaves.



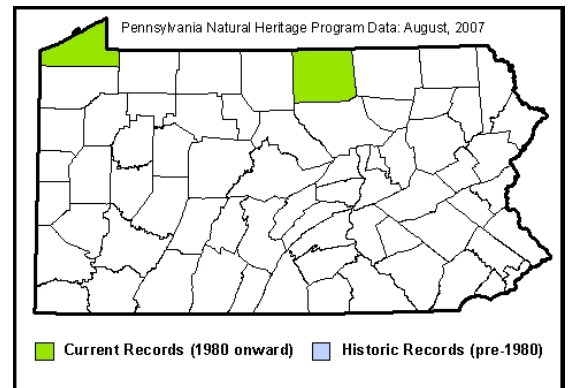
North American State/Province Conservation Status

Map by NatureServe (2007)



State/Province Status Ranks

■	SX – presumed extirpated
■	SH – possibly extirpated
■	S1 – critically imperiled
■	S2 – imperiled
■	S3 – vulnerable
■	S4 – apparently secure
■	S5 – secure
■	Not ranked/under review



HABITAT

The species grows in various types of habitats throughout its range but mostly on calcareous substrates. At the locations in Pennsylvania, buffalo-berry inhabits calcareous cliffs and rocky places, usually on steep slopes overlooking streams.

RANGE

Buffalo-berry is widely distributed in the more northern and cooler parts of North America. It appears to reach the southern border of its range in northern Pennsylvania.

REFERENCES

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Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program