# Autumn olive

# Elaeagnus umbellata



#### HABITAT:

- Spreads in disturbed areas such as roadsides, pastures, fields; thrives in poor soils
- Does not grow well in densely wooded areas

#### **ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS:**

 Creates dense shade which suppresses other native plants and will re-sprout vigorously after cutting or burning

#### TIMING:

- Flowers in mid to late spring
- Fruits September through November

#### **MANAGEMENT:**

- Hand pull seedlings and sprouts in early spring when soil is moist for full removal of root system
- For larger plants, cutting alone may result in thicker growth. A glyphosate herbicide, such as Roundup, can be applied (follow label directions when applying any herbicide)





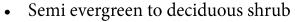


## Plant at a Glance:

- 1. **Leaf**: alternate, dark green, covered with silver-white scales
- 2. **Flower**: small, light yellow, appear along the stems after the leaves have sprouted early in growing season
- 3. **Fruit**: reddish pink, very fleshy

## **Native Alternative:**

Bayberry, Myrica pensylvanica



- Blooms in early spring
- Habitat: woodlands, meadows
- **Benefits and Uses**: shrub border, hedge, screening, grows in difficult growing sites
- **Growing tips**: full sun or partial shade with dry, sandy, infertile soils or humus-rich, acidic soils

**Photos:** Baskauf, Steven Jr. *Elaeagnus umbellata*. N.d. *Bioimages*. Web. 7 Sept. 2012. Cook, Will. *Autumn olive*. 2009. Duke University, Chapel Hill, NC. Web. 7 Sept. 2012., *It's red, can I eat it?*. N.d. Ohio. *Field biology in southeastern Ohio*. Web. 9 Aug. 2012.



