

CENTRAL JERSEY INVASIVE SPECIES STRIKE TEAM

Invasive Plant Fact Sheet

Linden Viburnum (*Viburnum dilatatum*)



Family name: Muskroot (*Adoxaceae*)

Native range: Asia

General: Multistemmed, deciduous shrub or small tree, overall shape is upright to rounded, 8 to 10 feet tall, 6 feet to 10 feet wide.

Leaves: Opposite, shallowly toothed, dark green, often shiny. *Leaf shape is HIGHLY VARIABLE from nearly round to nearly straplike on the same plant*, 2 to 5 inches long and 1 to 2.5 inches wide. Leaves and young stems are usually covered in soft hairs. Leaves drop relatively late in the fall.

Flowers: Small creamy white flowers in flattened clusters, 3 to 5 inches wide, appearing in May to early June. Flower clusters are usually numerous.

Fruit: Bright red, borne in flattened clusters. Individual fruits are flattened spheres, 0.33 inches in diameter. Appearing in summer, turning red in September and October and persisting into December.

Look-alikes: Arrowwood viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*) is a native woodland shrub that looks very similar to the non-native Linden viburnum. Arrowwood leaves are more



deeply toothed and rounder than Linden viburnum leaves.

When ripe and in season, arrowwood has *round, dark purple fruits*. Linden viburnum leaves and branch tips are covered in soft hairs, while arrowwood hairs leaves and branch tips are rougher. Seedling arrowwood and linden viburnum are often indistinguishable.



Habitat: Forest, open forest, forest edge, hedgerow, garden

Threats to native habitats: Linden viburnum can form thickets that displace native plants and prevent growth of native trees, shrubs, and herbs. It is shade tolerant and can overtop native understory trees and shrubs. It also produces prolific seeds.

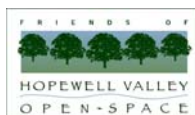
NJ Status: Linden viburnum is uncommon but spreading rapidly. It is *highly threatening* to natural plant communities. All detected occurrences should be eradicated.

Commercial Availability: Linden viburnum is widely planted in landscaping and gardens.

Sources: <http://commons.wikimedia.org>

<http://www.salisbury.edu/arboretum/Viburnum/ViDi/ViDiHM.html>

Rhoads, A.F. and T. Block. 2007. *Plants of Pennsylvania*. 2nd ed. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, PA. p. 961-2.



Central Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team (CJISST) is a regional cooperative effort to detect, map, and manage emerging populations of invasive species. This initiative is a partnership of state, county, and municipal agencies, conservation groups, and private citizens. Please contact us: **Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space**, (609) 730-1560 or **Upper Raritan Watershed Association**, (908) 234-1852.

