

## Vascular Plants of Williamson County

### *Callicarpa americana* – AMERICAN BEAUTYBERRY [Verbenaceae]

*Callicarpa americana* L., AMERICAN BEAUTYBERRY, FRENCH MULBERRY. Shrub, winter-deciduous, in range to 215 cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, often 1-dimensional (plagiotropic), with upright, many-armed treelike hairs (dendritic) and having sessile glandular hairs with colorless heads, mildly spicy aromatic when crushed. **Stems:** 4-sided, to 5 mm diameter, tough, rounded on edges, pubescent with persistent dendritic hairs on young periderm. **Leaves:** opposite decussate (subopposite to alternate), simple, petiolate, without stipules; petiole channeled nearly base to top, in range to 15 mm long, densely dendritic and sessile glandular hairs; blade ovate, 55–115(–140) × 36–62(–90) mm, tapered at base, serrate on margins, acute to acuminate at tip, pinnately veined with principal and minor veins sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface, with dendritic hairs and sessile glandular hairs. **Inflorescence:** dichasial cyme, paired and axillary, flat-topped, ca. 15 mm across and > petiole, twice 2-forked, mostly 20–35-flowered with terminal clusters of 4–7 flowers, bracteate, with dendritic hairs and sessile glandular hairs; having pubescent axillary bud between leaf petiole and peduncle of cyme; axes with hairs aging reddish; bract subtending branch ≤ internode, appressed, awl-shaped, ca. 2 mm long decreasing upward; bractlet subtending pedicel 0.5–0.7 mm long, < pedicel, pale green to white, with few hairs; pedicel < 1 mm long. **Flower:** bisexual, ± radial, ca. 4 mm across (ascending stamens); **calyx** shallowly 4-lobed, 2 mm long, with scattered sessile glandular hairs and sparsely hairy with short star-shaped hairs, glandular heads saucer-shaped and yellowish; tube ± short funnel-shaped, white at base to green and 4-ribbed above midpoint, lobes acute to deltate, to 0.5 mm long, colorless on margins; **corolla** 4-lobed, 3–3.2 mm long; tube funnel-shaped, 0.6–0.7 × 1 mm, tube + throat ca. 2 mm long, white, lobes overlapping at base, semi-circular to rounded, 1 × 1.5 mm, pink-purple to violet; stamens 4, attached to corolla ca. 0.5 mm from corolla base; filaments 4 mm long, white at base to light violet above and pink-purple; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, 1.1 mm long, brownish, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **nectary disc** surrounding lower portion of ovary, 0.2 mm tall, light green; **pistil** 1, included; ovary superior, stubby top-shaped, 0.7 × 0.7 mm, scarcely 4-lobed at top with central depression, light green, surface covered with domed cells from below midpoint, 2-chambered, each chamber with 2 ovule and 2 lobes; style in depression at top of ovary, erect, 6 mm long, white, with terminal stigma. **Fruit:** drupelike, densely clustered around node, with 3–6 seeds (stones), spheric to spheroid, 4.5–6 × 4.5–6.8 mm, ± glossy red-purple to deep purple, gland-dotted with scattered sessile glands and minutely pitted when heads removed; pulp (mesocarp), colorless; stones (endocarp) carapacelike, 2.5–2.8 × 1.5–2 mm, light tan.

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