

**Vascular Plants of Williamson County**  
*Cornus drummondii* – ROUGHLEAF DOGWOOD [Cornaceae]

*Cornus drummondii* C. A. Meyers, ROUGHLEAF DOGWOOD. Shrub, fall-deciduous, in range to 350 cm tall; shoots when horizontal often 2-dimensional (plagiotropic), with scattered, short-stalked, often appressed 2-armed (T-shaped) hairs, the arms < 0.2 mm long, hairs white but on certain structures also red. **Stems:** cylindric, with decurrent leaf bases below node, sometimes patches of hairs dark red. **Leaves:** opposite decussate, simple, petiolate, without stipules; petiole  $\pm$  flattened on upper side becoming shallowly channeled above midpoint, 4–11(–24) mm long, with low ridges on margins descending from blade; blade  $\pm$  ovate, < 35–125  $\times$  20–75 mm, broadly tapered to subtruncate at base, entire and somewhat wavy on margins, acuminate at tip, pinnately veined with midrib slightly sunken on upper surface and principal veins raised on lower surface, with 3 or 4 lateral veins per side. **Inflorescence:** paniclelike cyme, terminal,  $\pm$  flat-topped to domelike, with 4–6 principal branches, typically in opposite decussate pairs or also with a terminal branch, the lowest internodes often short, branches forked, many-flowered, 15–60 mm across, flowers erect and positioned  $\pm$  on upper side, lacking bracts; axes with appressed T-shaped hairs; pedicel at anthesis 0.5–4 mm long increasing 2 $\times$  in fruit, densely hairy including scattered red hairs. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 6.5–7 mm across, mildly scented; **calyx** 4-lobed, 0.8–1.1 mm long, with appressed 1-armed and 2-armed hairs, hairs occasionally red; tube attached to top of ovary, ca. 0.1 mm long, green aging reddish; lobes appressed to petals in bud and at anthesis, awl-shaped to  $\pm$  deltate, 0.5–0.8 mm long, with broad, rounded sinuses, green; **petals** 4, widely spreading (corolla rotate), narrowly ovate, 3.6–4.4  $\times$  1.5–1.7 mm, somewhat thick (ca. 0.25 mm), white, blunt acute at tip, veins inconspicuous, with appressed T-shaped hairs on lower surface; **stamens** 4, free, alternate with petals at top of ovary, exserted; filaments erect,  $\pm$  straight, 3–3.4 mm long, white, gradually tapered to tip, glabrous; anthers dorsifixed appearing hinged or versatile, dithecal, 1.8–1.9 mm long, creamy white aging darker, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen pale amber; **nectary disc** on top of pistil surrounding style inside stamens, ringlike and  $\pm$  2-lobed, 0.8 mm diameter, pale tan aging reddish, producing copious nectar above ovary; **pistil** 1, ca. 4 mm long; ovary inferior, bell-shaped, 1.5  $\times$  1.2–1.3 mm, pale green, in bud with low ribs to sepals, densely covered with appressed T-shaped hairs having arms vertically oriented, some scattered hairs red, 2-chambered, each chamber with 1 ovule attached at top; style exserted, straight, ca. 2.5 mm long, pale green; stigmas = weak lobes, terminal, positioned below level of anthers, initially green, wet. **Fruit:** drupe, with 1 stone, 2-seeded, subspheroid, ca. 5  $\times$  4.5–5.5 mm and widest around midpoint, whitish with circular black scar on top ca. 1 mm diameter, having scattered, tightly appressed T-shaped hairs with arms vertically oriented; pulp (mesocarp) thin, not juicy; stone (endocarp) subspheroid, 4–4.5  $\times$  4–4.5 mm, symmetric, dull tan without whitish lines connecting poles, 2-seeded.

A. C. Gibson