

## Plant Profiles: HORT 2241 Landscape Plants I

**Botanical Name:** *Rhodotypos scandens*

**Common Name:** black jetbead

**Family Name:** Rosaceae –rose family

**General Description:** *Rhodotypos scandens* is a tough, adaptable flowering shrub. It has white flowers in late spring, handsome leaves during the summer and fall, and interesting small black fruits that hold on during the winter. It does well in sun or dense shade and is tolerant of a wide variety of landscape conditions. *Rhodotypos scandens* was introduced from Asia for use as an ornamental plant but has become an invasive species in eastern United States. Though not a widespread problem in this area, it has been documented in natural areas in DuPage, Cook and a few other areas on the Chicago area.

**Zone:** 4-8

### Resources Consulted:

Dirr, Michael A. *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants: Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation and Uses*. Champaign: Stipes, 2009. Print.

"The PLANTS Database." *USDA, NRCS*. National Plant Data Team, Greensboro, NC 27401-4901 USA, 2014. Web. 23 Mar. 2014.

Swink, Floyd, and Gerould Wilhelm. *Plants of the Chicago Region*. Indianapolis: Indiana Academy of Science, 1994. Print.

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**Creation Date:** 2014

**Keywords/Tags:** *Rhodotypos scandens*, deciduous, flowering shrub, shrub



### Whole plant/Habit:

- Description: *Rhodotypos scandens* has an upright, arching habit that resembles a Japanese kerria (*Kerria japonica*) on steroids! The loose arching stems grow 3-6 foot tall and 6-9 foot wide.
- Image Source: Karren Wcisel, TreeTopics.com
- Image Date: May 6, 2005
- Image File Name: jetbead\_0529.png

**Flower:**

- Description: The four-petaled white flowers bloom mid-spring to early summer. The crisp white flowers light up a shady spot and are black jetbead's best attribute.
- Image Source: Karren Wcisel, TreeTopics.com
- Image Date: May 10, 2005
- Image File Name: jetbead\_0874.png

**Fruit:**

- Description: The small, hard, shiny black drupes are usually in groups of 4 (sometimes 3-5) and persist through the winter. Though interesting upon close inspection they are not showy and do not add much value to the winter landscape. When the fruit fall the persistent sepals remain and can aid in identification.
- Image Source: Karren Wcisel, TreeTopics.com
- Image Date: January 2, 2007
- Image File Name: jetbead\_3175b.png

**Leaf:**

- Description: Black jetbead has simple, bright green, opposite leaves with prominent pinnate venation. The doubly serrate margins and vein pattern can aid in identification during the growing season.
- Image Source: Karren Wcisel, TreeTopics.com
- Image Date: May 10, 2005
- Image File Name: jetbead\_0874.png



**Winter interest:**

- Description: Black jetbead has very little winter interest. The habit is twiggy and somewhat coarse. The fruits are only noticeable if they are viewed up close.
- Image Source: Karren Wcisel, TreeTopics.com
- Image Date: January 2, 2007
- Image File Name: jetbead\_3181.png



**Special ID feature(s):**

- Description: The black jetbead fruits are unique to this plant and, when present, are reliable identification features.
- Image Source: Karren Wcisel, TreeTopics.com
- Image Date: January 2, 2007
- Image File Name: jetbead\_3179.png