

# Alternative Species

Taxonomic Name:

*Myrica pensylvanica*  
(syn.) *Morella pensylvanica*

Common Name: *Northern bayberry*

Physical Description:

Growth Type: *This deciduous shrub is typically 9 feet high and spread with a rounded habit.*

Leaves: *The leaves are dense on the stems and glossy green. They are light green in spring turned dark green by summer. They are leathery in texture and quite aromatic when crushed. The leaf is 4 inches long with a tapered base and is often toothed near the tip. Leaves are evergreen in mild climates and semi-evergreen to deciduous in cold climates.*

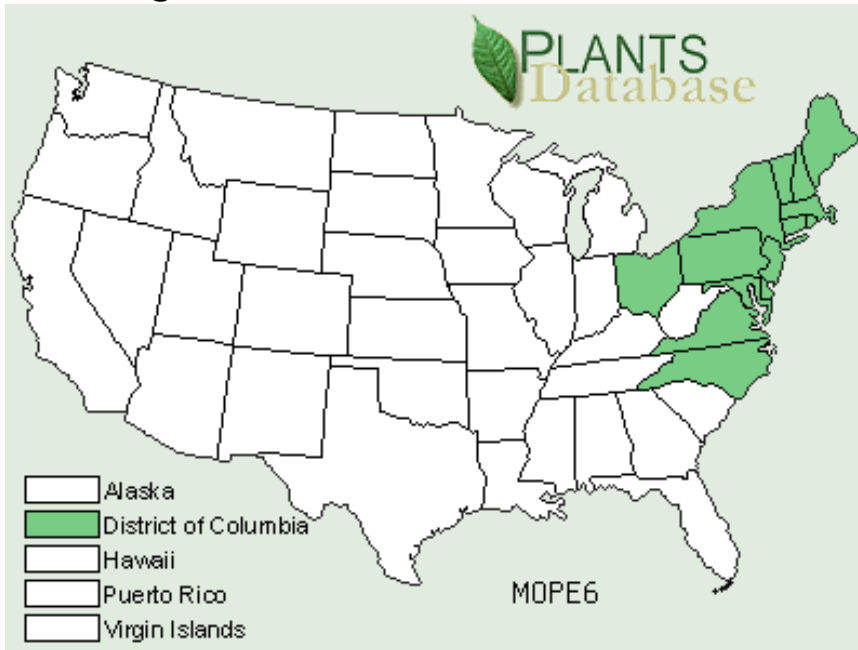
Flowers: *They appear as catkins in the leaf axils before leaf formation and are not showy. There are male and female plants.*

Fruit: *Only the female plants produce fruit, which are a silvery-gray, wax-coated drupe. The fruit remains into the winter and are a good food source for birds. They can also be used for making bayberry wax candles.*



Bark: *The branches are slender and brittle. They start reddish brown but become smooth and gray-brown with age.*

Coverage Area:



Sources:

<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/imp/modzz/00000973.html>

<https://kent.nswebhost.com/~tulpehoc/product.php/218.htm>

<http://www.oldhouseweb.com/gardening/garden/01702031.shtml>

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/easternshore/Biology/Plant%20Fact%20Sheets/bayberry.ht>

<http://www.ext.vt.edu/departments/envirohort/factsheets/shrubs/nbaybry.html>

<http://www.cnr.vt.edu/DENDRO/DENDROLOGY/syllabus2/factsheet.cfm?ID=816>

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=MOPE6>