

F2203 (July 2024)

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North Dakota Tree Selector

General

Scientific Name: *Rhus trilobata*

Family: Anacardiaceae (Cashew)

Hardiness: Zone 3

Leaves: Deciduous

Plant Type: Shrub

Growth

Rate: Medium

Mature Height: >7'

Longevity: Medium

Power Line: Yes

Ornamental

Flowers: Yellow

Fruit: Red and hairy

Fall Color: Yellow

Skunkbush (Lemonade) Sumac

Description

Native to the northern Plains. Spreading shrub, smaller and finer-textured leaves than fragrant sumac. Forms a dense mass of stems and leaves. Scented leaves and light yellow flowers.

Preferences

Light: Full sun to partial shade.

Water: Moderately drought tolerant. Survives the harsh conditions of the ND Badlands.

Soil: Adaptable to a wide variety of soils.

Comments

Colorful fall color is one of the key characteristics of skunkbush sumac.

It is often used as a bush in landscapes and it forms a handsome mound.

Can also be used along roadsides or in similar locations.

Very similar to *R. aromatica*, fragrant sumac.



Credits: Tree Selector Website, North Dakota Tree Handbook, Manual of Woody Landscape Plants 6th edition.