

Cornus glabrata Benth., BROWN DOGWOOD. Shrub, fall-deciduous, clonal forming thickets, rhizomatous, in range to 350 cm tall; shoots when horizontal often 2-dimensional (plagiotropic), with scattered, short-stalked, appressed 2-armed (T-shaped) hairs, the arms < 0.2 mm long and sometimes red on buds and unexpanded leaves and bracts. **Stems:** cylindric, often reddish on exposed sides aging with brown periderm. **Leaves:** opposite decussate, simple, petiolate connected by 2 curved ledges across node, without stipules; petiole \pm flattened on upper side, 5–15 mm long, with low ridges on margins descending from blade, blade \pm elliptic, 35–90 \times 19–40, broadly tapered at base, entire and somewhat wavy on margins, bluntly acute at tip, pinnately veined with midrib slightly raised on upper surface and principal veins raised on lower surface, with 3 or 4 lateral veins per side. **Inflorescence:** paniclelike cyme, terminal, shallowly domed, with 4 or 5 principal branches, typically in 2 opposite decussate pairs or also with a terminal branch, branches forked, 30–40-flowered, with 7–17 flowers per principal branch, terminal branch with 2–7 flowers, flowers erect and positioned \pm on upper side, lacking bracts; axes with appressed T-shaped hairs; pedicel at anthesis 2.5–4.5 mm long increasing 2 \times in fruit. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, ca. 8 mm across, sweet-spicy scented; **calyx** 4-lobed, with appressed 1-armed and 2-armed hairs; tube attached to top of ovary, ca. 0.1 mm long, green; lobes deltate to awl-shaped, 0.3–0.4 mm long, pale green; **petals** 4, spreading aging somewhat recurved (corolla rotate), narrowly ovate, 3.2–4 \times 1.5–1.8 mm, somewhat thick, creamy white with T-shaped hairs on lower surface; **stamens** 4, free, exserted; filaments erect to ascending and \pm straight, 3.3–3.8 mm long, white, gradually tapered to tip, glabrous; anthers dorsifixed appearing hinged, dithecal, \pm 3 \times 0.8 mm, creamy white, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen pale amber; **nectary disc** on top of pistil surrounding style inside stamens, ringlike and shallowly 4-lobed, 1.1–1.2 mm diameter, 0.3 mm tall and thick, pale tan, producing copious nectar above ovary; **pistil** 1, 4.8–5.5 mm long; ovary inferior, urn-shaped, 1.5–2 \times 1.2–1.3 mm, green, covered with appressed T-shaped hairs having arms vertically oriented, 2-chambered, each chamber with 1 ovule attached at top; style straight, 3–3.5 mm long, white at base to greenish approaching tip, with appressed T-shaped hairs; stigmas = weak lobes, positioned below level of anthers, pale green, wet. **Fruit:** drupe, with 1 stone, 2-seeded, spheroid, 6.5–7 mm, blue, with scattered, appressed T-shaped hairs; pulp (mesocarp) juicy, milky; stone (endocarp) \pm top-shaped, 4–5 \times 5–5.5 mm, symmetric or asymmetric with eccentric poles, greenish (within fleshy fruit) having 8 whitish lines connecting poles, 1–2-seeded. Late April–late May.

Native. Deciduous shrub known from shaded canyon next to water in Malibu Creek State Park and above Seminole Hot Springs, but recently probably extirpated from the only accessible population, which was previously heavily browsed by deer. *Cornus glabrata* has distinctive, appressed T-shaped hairs on leaves, axes, outer surfaces of the flower bud, and even along the style. Its flowers are scented as if attractive to beetles, and its drupe is blue, and so cannot be confused with anything else in range.

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