



photo: Dan Jaffe

COASTAL SWEET PEPPERBUSH

Clethra alnifolia

Also known as Summersweet. Medium to large shrub with interesting leaves and showy, fragrant, long-lasting white flowers in midsummer. Well adapted to varied growing conditions, very hardy.

Species is listed as Species of Concern in Maine.

Benefits for Wildlife

- Flowers attract butterflies and hummingbirds
- Songbirds and mammals feed on the fruit
- Host for the Sweet Pepperbush Nola Moth, *Nola clethrae*

Benefits for People

- Beautiful, fragrant flowers that last up to six weeks
- Leaves turn golden yellow in fall
- Forms broad, dense thicket ideal for hedge row or screen

Growing Information

<i>Sunlight</i>	Full to part shade
<i>Soil Type</i>	Moist, but can tolerate drought
<i>Height</i>	3–6'
<i>Width</i>	5–10'
<i>Flowering calendar</i>	July to August

Natural Habitat

- Varied, often near water

