



Agalinis purpurea (a.k.a. *Gerardia purpurea*)
Purple Gerardia

FACW7



Scrophulariaceae: Figwort Family

Native annual

Flowers in summer

SUMMARY: A small plant with smooth, four-sided stems, narrow leaves, and funnel-shaped, purplish-pink flowers with five irregular lobes at the tip.

STEM AND LEAVES: Plants are 10–60 cm (4–24") high, usually with a single stem but sometimes multiply branched. Stems are four sided and smooth. Leaves are narrow, up to 4 mm ($\frac{1}{8}$ " wide).

FLOWERS: The flowers are funnel shaped with five slightly irregularly shaped lobes and a slight bulge underneath. The flowers are about 2 cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ " long and are on

short pedicels (flower stalks), 1–5 mm (under $\frac{1}{8}$ " long. There are few to many pinkish-purple flowers, and the calyx (outer series of flower parts) is pointed.

HABITAT: It grows throughout the area in full sun on gravelly, rocky, and sandy shores, as well as in damp interdunal swales (wet areas between higher, dry areas). It is also found inland in fens, wet meadows, and bogs.

DISTRIBUTION: It grows throughout the Great Lakes region and is also found from Nova Scotia to Florida, Mexico, and the West Indies.

ECOLOGICAL COMMENTS: Although they are small plants, the gerardias can be very showy when many flowers are in bloom.

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Agalinis* is from Greek *aga*, meaning "wonder," and Latin *linum*, meaning "flax"; *purpurea* means "purple" for the flower color; *tenuifolia* means "slender leaves." *Gerardia* was named for John Gerarde, an herbalist, who lived from 1545 to 1611.





ETHNOBOTANICAL USES: None listed for purple gerardia, but common gerardia has been used to treat diarrhea.

WILDLIFE USES: None listed.

SIMILAR PLANTS: *Agalinis tenuifolia* (common gerardia) tends to be smaller than the purple gerardia, with smaller flowers and leaves, but it has longer pedicels and tends to be more branched.

Amelanchier sanguinea · Amelanchier; Serviceberry; Sarvis;
Juneberry; New England Serviceberry

UPL₅



Rosaceae: Rose Family
Native shrub
Flowers in May and June

SUMMARY: An attractive, white-flowered shrub with five petals, which flowers early in the spring.

STEMS AND LEAVES: This small tree or sprawling shrub is usually less than 3 m (10') high. It is often solitary (only one) but is also found in clumps with many stems. The leaves are egg shaped to rounded and coarsely toothed, with fewer than twenty teeth on each side of a leaf; the teeth are concentrated above the middle of the leaf. The leaves are fuzzy,

with matted white hairs, half grown at flowering time, and up to 7 cm (3") long. The leaf veins run to the teeth. The leaves tend to be smooth at maturity. The bark is gray with longitudinal (lengthwise) striations (streaks).

FLOWERS: The flowers are white and have five petals, 10–18 mm ($\frac{3}{8}$ – $\frac{3}{4}$ ") long. The top of the ovary (the female part of a plant that produces seed) is very fuzzy. The racemes (flower heads) are loose and open.

HABITAT: Serviceberries grow in the border between the upper beach and the forested areas. They like calcareous (limestone) areas on gravelly and sandy shores and low dunes. They are also found inland in sandy woods.

DISTRIBUTION: Found throughout the middle and northern areas of the Great Lakes region. Also known as New England serviceberry, it is found from Quebec and Maine west to Iowa and south to the mountains of North Carolina.

ECOLOGICAL COMMENTS: This is one of the first shrubs to bloom in the spring, and it is very showy when covered with attractive white flowers. These shrubs are often dwarfed due to the effects of wind and snow.

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Amelanchier* is derived from the name of a European species; *sanguinea* means "blood-red," derived from the blood-red color of the young branches. The common names serviceberry and sarvis are derived from the use made of this





plant in the springtime for burial services and weddings, as it is the first shrub to have showy flowers in the spring.

ETHNOBOTANICAL USES: There has been major use of the fruits of all of the species of serviceberry. They have been used to treat a variety of medical ailments, including chest pains, coughs, fevers, flu symptoms, sore eyes, and upset stomachs. They have also been used to help relieve the pain of childbirth and teething, as well as for birth control. As a food, they are eaten raw, dried for future use, and added to meat to make a pemmican (a traditional Native American and First Nation food made of fat, berries, and dried meat). The fruit is delicious on some plants but pithy and tasteless on others.

WILDLIFE USES: There is extensive wildlife use. The fruit is used by many bird species (including American crows, American robins, Baltimore orioles, black-capped chickadees, brown thrashers, eastern bluebirds, northern cardinals, ring-necked pheasants, rose-breasted grosbeaks, ruffed grouse, and scarlet tanagers) and also by bears, beavers, chipmunks, foxes, hares, skunks, squirrels, mice, moose, and white-tailed deer. The tender stems and leaves are eaten by elk, moose, and white-tailed deer.

SIMILAR PLANTS: Of the six species in the area, the round-leaved serviceberry is relatively common but difficult to distinguish from the other species. Some of the other species have smooth leaves and ovaries at flowering time. The leaves have a different shape (more rounded or linear), and the veins do not reach the tip of the teeth in some of the other species.