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Viburnum acerifolium

[Synonyms : *Viburnum acerifolium* var. *densiflorum*, *Viburnum acerifolium* var. *glabrescens*,
Viburnum acerifolium var. *ovatum*, *Viburnum densiflorum*, *Viburnum pauciflorum*]

ARROWWOOD is a deciduous shrub. Native to north-eastern North America it has tiny yellowish-white flowers.

It is also known as Dockmackie, High bush cranberry, *Kalina javorolistá* (Czech), Maple-leaved arrowwood, Maple-leaved viburnum, and Possum-haw.

Acerifolium is made up of *Acer* (genus name) and Latin *-folia* (leaved) components meaning ‘with leaves like those of that (maple) genus’.

As the common name Arrowwood implies this wood was used by some North American Indian tribes to make their arrows.

Records show that the Menominee and Chippewa tribes made a medicinal tea with the inner bark that was taken to ease cramps and stomach pains. It was also used by the Menominee to cause vomiting, and by the Cherokee to cause sweating. Wind was cured with it by the Menominee Indians, and the Iroquois used it to treat period problems and urinary disorders. It was probably the Cherokee tribe however which turned to the shrub for easing the widest range of conditions including fever, smallpox, convulsions and oral disorders – and they also took it as a tonic.