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© 37. **Propagation protocol for bareroot silver buffaloberry (*Shepherdia argentea*).**  
Grubb, B. H. Native Plants Journal 8(3):233-235. 2007.

PROPAGATION  
PROTOCOL FOR

# BAREROOT SILVER BUFFALOBERRY

(*Shepherdia argentea*)



## ABSTRACT

Silver buffaloberry (*Shepherdia argentea* (Pursh) Nutt. [Elaeagnaceae]) can be successfully produced as a 2+0 bareroot nursery stocktype from seeds. In Colorado, we sow seeds in late fall, typically the first to second week of October. Plants will emerge by the second week of May. We apply granular ammonium sulfate (21 N:0P2O5:0K2O:24SO4) during both growing seasons to meet our target specifications. At our nursery, buffaloberry is one of the first crops to be harvested; we usually start around the first of November. Once harvested, plants are graded (minimum stem diameter at the root collar of 5 mm [3/16 in] and minimum height of 46 cm [18 in]), packed into wax-coated cardboard boxes, and stored in a cooler until shipment the following spring. Silver buffaloberry is a species suitable for windbreaks and wildlife habitat, with opportunities for ornamental and landscape uses as well.

Grubb BH. 2007. Propagation protocol for bareroot silver buffaloberry (*Shepherdia argentea*). *Native Plants Journal* 8(3):233–235.

## KEY WORDS

bareroot, nursery, fertilization, Elaeagnaceae, frost protection

## NOMENCLATURE

USDA NRCS (2007)

Figure 1. Nice-looking beds of 2+0 silver buffaloberry. Photo by Brian Grubb

| Brian H Grubb

Silver buffaloberry (*Shepherdia argentea* (Pursh) Nutt.) is a member of the Elaeagnaceae. Trees and shrubs of this family tend to have silvery and (or) brown pubescent twigs and leaves. Silver buffaloberry is a large shrub or sometimes nearly tree-like, typically growing 4 to 6 m (12 to 18 ft) in height. Bark becomes grayish-brown and exfoliates with age. Summer foliage is somewhat pubescent silver-green to gray-green, but fall color is insignificant. This plant is found primarily on the Prairie Provinces of Canada and south to the Dakotas, Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado. Male and female flowers are borne on separate plants. Flowers are small, yellow, and somewhat inconspicuous. A reddish drupe-like fruit ripens from June through August. Seeds are actually small, shiny-brown, oval, hardened achenes.

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