

Washington Flora Checklist

A checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State

Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium

Family: Grossulariaceae

23 terminal taxa (species, subspecies, and varieties).

The Washington Flora Checklist aims to be a complete list of the native and naturalized vascular plants of Washington State, with current classifications, nomenclature and synonymy.

Taxa included in the checklist:

- Native taxa whether extant, extirpated, or extinct.
- Exotic taxa that are naturalized, escaped from cultivation, or persisting wild.
- Waifs (e.g., ballast plants, escaped crop plants) and other scarcely collected exotics.
- Interspecific hybrids that are frequent or self-maintaining.
- Some unnamed taxa in the process of being described.

Family classifications follow [APG IV](#) for angiosperms, PPG I (J. Syst. Evol. 54:563-603. 2016.) for pteridophytes, and Christenhusz et al. (Phytotaxa 19:55-70. 2011.) for gymnosperms, with a few exceptions. Nomenclature and synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superseded by new information.

Accepted names are indicated with **blue type**, synonyms with **gray type**.

Native species and infraspecies are marked with **bold-face type**.

*Non-native and introduced taxa are preceded by an asterisk.

Please note: This is a working checklist, continuously updated. Use it at your discretion.

Created from the Washington Flora Checklist database on August 2nd, 2025 at 7:08am PT.

Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

Comments and questions should be addressed to the checklist administrators:

David Giblin (dgiblin@uw.edu)

Peter Zika (zikap941@gmail.com)

Suggested citation:

Weinmann, F., P.F. Zika, D.E. Giblin, B. Legler. 2002+. Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State. University of Washington Herbarium. <https://www.burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>. Accessed Aug 2, 2025.

Dicots:

Grossulariaceae [FNA8, HC, HC2] Currant Family

FNA8: "Weigend, M. 2007. Grossulariaceae. In: K. Kubitzki et al., eds. 1990+. The Families and Genera of Vascular Plants. 9+ vols. Berlin etc. Vol. 9, pp. 168-176."

Ribes [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 200. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5, 94. 1754.
currant, gooseberry

Ribes acerifolium Howell [FNA8, HC2]

Erythea. 3: 34. 1895.
maple-leaf currant

Ribes howellii Greene [HC], rejected name

FNA8: "*Ribes acerifolium* K. Koch (1869), which was believed to block the use of *R. acerifolium* Howell, was not validly published. Consequently, the name *R. howellii* Greene, proposed as a substitute name, is superfluous; it appears in many floras and on many herbarium specimens."

Ribes aureum Pursh [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Fl. Amer. Sept. 1: 164. 1813.
golden currant

var. aureum [FNA8, HC2]

Fl. Amer. Sept. 1: 164. 1813.
golden currant

Chrysobotrya aurea (Pursh) Rydb.

FNA8: "*Ribes aureum* was introduced into cultivation in Europe early in the nineteenth century (F. V. Coville 1903). It is a major host of pinyon blister rust in Arizona, Colorado, and Utah, and of pinyon leaf rust in New Mexico (E. P. Van Arsdell and B. W. Geils 2004). *Ribes aureum* is a variable complex and the varieties may seem to intergrade. In California, var. *aureum* occurs in sagebrush scrub or coniferous forests at higher elevations (800-2600 m) than var. *gracillimum*; the sepals of var. *aureum* are longer than those of var. *gracillimum* (5-8 mm versus 3-4 mm), and its hypanthium is noticeably shorter relative to the sepals. Leaves of var. *aureum* are more highly lobed and are sparsely glandular in the Pacific Northwest and less lobed and more densely glandular in the southwest (H. D. Hammond, pers. comm.). In most of its range, var. *villosum* is so conspicuously villous as to be unmistakable; in the west some plants with strikingly long hypanthia are scarcely villous."

Ribes bracteosum Douglas [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Fl. Bor.-Amer. 1: 233. 1832.
California black currant, stink currant

FNA8: "*Ribes bracteosum* occurs along the Pacific Coast from southeastern Alaska to northern California. Its thin leaves have a sweetish, disagreeable odor and the conspicuous bracts bear acicular, mostly persistent processes near the base along the slightly winged, stipular margins."

Ribes cereum Douglas [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Trans. Hort. Soc. London. 7: 512. 1830.
wax currant

var. cereum [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Trans. Hort. Soc. London 7(4): 512-514. 1830.
wax currant

Ribes cereum Douglas var. *inebrians* (Lindl.) C.L. Hitchc. [HC]

Ribes cereum Douglas var. *pedicellare* A. Gray

Ribes inebrians Lindl.

Ribes reniforme Nutt.

Ribes viscidulum A. Berger

var. *colubrinum* C.L. Hitchc. [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Vasc. Pl. Pacif. N.W. 3: 69, plate [p. 72], fig. s.n. [upper right center]. 1961.
wax currant

Ribes divaricatum Douglas [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Trans. Hort. Soc. London. 7: 515. 1830.
coast black gooseberry, straggly gooseberry

Grossularia divaricata (Douglas) Coville & Britton

var. *divaricatum* [FNA8, HC2]

Trans. Hort. Soc. London. 7: 515. 1830.
coast black gooseberry

Ribes divaricatum Douglas var. *glabriflorum* Koehne

Ribes divaricatum Douglas var. *rigidum* M. Peck

Ribes suksdorfii A. Heller

Ribes hudsonianum Richardson [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Narr. Journey Polar Sea (ed. 2). 734. 1823.
Hudson Bay currant, northern black currant, western black currant

Ribes hudsonianum Richardson var. *hudsonianum* [HC]

Ribes hudsonianum Richardson var. *petiolare* (Douglas) Janczewski [HC]

Ribes petiolare Douglas

FNA8: "Plants of *Ribes hudsonianum* with leaf blades that are pubescent abaxially and mostly lack sessile glands, and have ovaries with sessile glands, have been recognized as var. *hudsonianum*; those with leaf blades that are shaggy-hairy abaxially and sessile-glandular, and have ovaries lacking such glands, have been named var. *petiolare*. Variety *hudsonianum* has a more northern distribution; var. *petiolare* is western. Where their ranges overlap, for instance in Saskatoon, pubescence density varies continuously and does not correlate with presence or absence of glands (V. L. Harms, pers. comm.). *Ribes hudsonianum* is a major host of blister rust; in early literature it is referred to as *R. petiolare* (E. P. Van Arsdell and B. W. Geils 2004). It has a strong, sweetish, unpleasant odor, and bears its leaves on long shoots."

Ribes inerme Rydb. [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 1: 202. 1900.
whitestem gooseberry

Grossularia inermis (Rydb.) Coville & Britton

var. *inerme* [FNA8, HC2]

Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 1: 202. 1900.
whitestem gooseberry

Grossularia inermis (Rydb.) Coville & Britton var. *pubescens* A. Berger

Ribes divaricatum Douglas var. *inerme* (Rydb.) McMinn

Ribes inerme Rydb. var. *subarmatum* M. Peck

Ribes valicola Greene ex Rydb.

Ribes lacustre (Pers.) Poir. [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Encycl., Suppl. 2: 856. 1812.
swamp currant, bristly black gooseberry, swamp gooseberry

Limnobotrya lacustris (Pers.) Rydb.

Ribes lacustre (Pers.) Poir. var. *parvulum* A. Gray

Ribes oxyacanthoides L. var. *lacustre* Pers.

FNA8: "The petals and stamens are inserted on the rim of the pink nectary disc in *Ribes lacustre*."

Ribes laxiflorum Pursh [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Fl. Amer. Sept. 2: 731. 1813.
trailing black currant

Ribes coloradense Coville

FNA8: "Ribes laxiflorum flowers have stamens with reddish filaments."

Ribes lobbii A. Gray [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Amer. Naturalist. 10: 274. 1876.

gummy gooseberry, Lobb's gooseberry, Oregon gooseberry

Grossularia lobbii (A. Gray) Coville & Britton

FNA8: "Ribes lobbii occurs in mountains from southwestern British Columbia to northwestern California. It is unusual in having anthers that are warty or capitate-papillate with red glands abaxially."

Ribes montigenum McClatchie [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Erythea. 5: 38. 1897.

alpine prickly currant, mountain gooseberry, western prickly gooseberry

Limnobotrya montigena (McClatchie) Rydb.

Ribes lacustre (Pers.) Poir. var. *molle* A. Gray

Ribes lentum (M.E. Jones) Coville & Rose

Ribes nubigenum McClatchie

FNA8: "The lobed, yellowish, pinkish, or red nectary discs and purplish red filaments of *Ribes montigenum* are striking."

***Ribes nigrum** L. [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 201. 1753.

cultivated black currant

FNA8: "Ribes nigrum is the source of the cultivated black currant. It has a strong, unpleasant odor."

Ribes niveum Lindl. [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Edwards's Bot. Reg. 20: plate 1692. 1834.

Snake River gooseberry, snow gooseberry

Ribes oxycanthoides L. [FNA8, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 201. 1753.

Canada gooseberry

var. cognatum (Greene) Morin [FNA8, HC2]

J. Bot. Res. Inst. Texas. 1: 1015. 2007.

northern gooseberry, umatilla gooseberry, Umatilla gooseberry

Grossularia cognata (Greene) Coville & Britton

Ribes cognatum Greene [HC]

Ribes oxycanthoides L. ssp. *cognatum* (Greene) Q.P. Sinnott

var. irriguum (Douglas) Jancz. [FNA8, HC2]

Mém. Soc. Phys. Genève. 35: 388. 1907.

Idaho gooseberry

Grossularia irrigua (Douglas) Coville & Britton

Grossularia nonscripta A. Berger

Ribes divaricatum Douglas var. *irriguum* (Douglas) A. Gray

Ribes irriguum Douglas [HC]

Ribes leucoderme A. Heller

Ribes nonscripta (A. Berger) Standl.

Ribes oxycanthoides L. ssp. *irriguum* (Douglas) Q.P. Sinnott [ILBC]

Ribes oxycanthoides L. var. *leucoderme* (A. Heller) Jancz.

***Ribes rubrum** L. [FNA8, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 200. 1753.

northern red currant

Ribes rubrum L. var. *sativum* Rchb.

Ribes sativum (Rchb.) Syme [HC]

Ribes sylvestre (Lam.) Mertens & Koch

Ribes vulgare Lam.

FNA8: "The leaves of *Ribes rubrum* are rather thick. Cultivated red currants may have originated from a

cross between *R. rubrum* and *R. spicatum* E. Robson, a rare species native in northern Britain (R. Mabey 1996). Many of the state and province records of occurrence may be the result of repeated escape from cultivation rather than true naturalization."

***Ribes sanguineum* Pursh [FNA8, HC, HC2]**

Fl. Amer. Sept. 1: 164. 1813.

blood currant, red currant, red flowering currant

var. *sanguineum* [FNA8, HC2]

Fl. Amer. Sept. 1: 164 [1813]. 1814.

blood currant, red currant, red flowering currant

Ribes sanguineum Pursh var. *deductum* Jeps.

Ribes sanguineum Pursh var. *melanocarpum* (Greene) Jeps.

FNA8: "*Ribes sanguineum* is widely cultivated. It begins to bloom very early in the season, providing a nectar source for pollinators when little else is available."

***Ribes triste* Pall. [FNA8, HC, HC2]**

Nova Acta Acad. Sci. Imp. Petrop. Hist. Acad. 10: 378. 1797.

American red currant, swamp red currant, wild red currant

Ribes rubrum L. var. *alaskanum* (A. Berger) B. Boivin

Ribes rubrum L. var. *propinquum* (Turcz.) Trautv. & C.A. Mey.

Ribes triste Pall. var. *albinervium* (Michx.) Fernald

***Ribes velutinum* Greene [FNA8, HC, HC2]**

Bull. Calif. Acad. Sci. 1: 83. 1885.

desert gooseberry, Goodding's gooseberry

Grossularia velutina (Greene) Coville & Britton

Ribes gooddingii M. Peck

Ribes velutinum Greene var. *glanduliferum* (A. Heller) Jeps.

Ribes velutinum Greene var. *gooddingii* (M. Peck) C.L. Hitchc. [HC]

Ribes velutinum Greene var. *velutinum* [HC]

***Ribes viscosissimum* Pursh [FNA8, HC, HC2]**

Fl. Amer. Sept. 1: 163. 1813.

Hall's sticky currant, mountain currant

Ribes viscosissimum Pursh var. *hallii* (Janczewski) Janczewski [HC]

Ribes viscosissimum Pursh var. *viscosissimum* [HC]

FNA8: "All parts of *Ribes viscosissimum* are very fragrant. Its leaves are thick and rough. Plants with glabrous or sparsely stipitate-glandular ovaries have been recognized as var. *hallii* and are found only in California and Oregon. Plants with strongly stipitate-glandular and softly pubescent ovaries are var. *viscosissimum* and are more widespread. W. C. Martin and C. R. Hutchins (1980) indicated that *R. viscosissimum* is to be expected in New Mexico; no occurrence there has been confirmed."

***Ribes watsonianum* Koehne [FNA8, HC, HC2]**

Deut. Dendrol. 197. 1893.

Mount Adams gooseberry, spring gooseberry, watson gooseberry

Grossularia watsoniana (Koehne) Coville & Britton

FNA8: "*Ribes watsonianum* occurs in the Cascade Range of Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia, and in Alberta. Analysis of combined datasets of ITS, ETS, psbA-trnH, and chloroplast restriction sites placed *R. watsonianum* as sister to sect. *Grossularia* (L. M. Schultheis and M. J. Donoghue 2004)."

***Ribes wolfii* Rothr. [FNA8, HC, HC2]**

Amer. Naturalist. 8: 358. 1874.

Winaha currant, Wolf's currant

Ribes mogollonicum Greene

FNA8: "*Ribes mogollonicum* is included here in *R. wolfii* because the two taxa, morphologically, seem to overlap completely. A. E. Sinters and D. E. Soltis (2003) placed *R. mogollonicum* near *R. viscosissimum* and *R. erythrocarpum*."