

Black Jetbead (*Rhodotypos scandens*)

Identification:

Black jetbead is a small deciduous shrub with opposite, simple ~3 in. long leaves which are doubly serrate. What makes *Rhodotypos scandens* recognizable is the shape of the leaf at its tip, where it appears pinched, forming a shape similar to the symbol for spades on a playing card. The veins form a visible ribbing texture. The flowers bloom in early June to reveal four small white petals. and the fruits start red and mature into ripe black, bead-like berries by the fall.



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Habitat and Spread:

Jetbead can grow in full sun, but is very shade tolerant, as it's able to thrive in the innermost por-



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Management Techniques:

If possible, manual removal of the plant and entire root system is ideal, and feasible to accomplish when the plant is small. With more mature specimens, cutting and chemically treating the stump with triclopyr or glyphosate in late fall or winter is best.

Native Range and Original Introduction:

Rhodotypos scandens was introduced as an ornamental in the 1860's from Central China, Japan, and Korea.



White, four-petaled jetbead flower between textured leaves. (Left)

Fruit-cluster of ripe jet-bead berries, which are typically hard and lustrous. (Right)



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