

## MORACEAE – MULBERRY FAMILY

**Plant:** mostly trees and shrubs, rarely herbs with milky juice

**Stem:** may have milky sap

**Root:**

**Leaves:** deciduous or evergreen; simple, alternate (rarely opposite or whorled), sometimes toothed or lobed, often in 2 rows, pinnately or palmately veined; with stipules though falling early

**Flowers:** imperfect (monoecious or dioecious); tiny, often greenish, in dense heads or spikes; 2-6, often 4 sepals, no corolla; stamens mostly same number as sepals: ovary superior or inferior with 1-2 carpels, 1-2 styles

**Fruit:** multiple dense drupe (berry-like) and fleshy, some edible, or dried capsule

**Other:** mostly tropical or subtropical; locally various mulberries and osage orange; Dicotyledons Group

**Genera:** 40+ genera; locally *Broussonetia* (paper-mulberry), *Maclura* (osage-orange), *Morus* (mulberry)

## MORACEAE – MULBERRY FAMILY

Osage-Orange; *Maclura pomifera* (Raf.) Schneid.

Red Mulberry; *Morus rubra* L. var. *rubra*

# Osage-Orange [Bois D'arc; Hedge Apple]

*Maclura pomifera* (Raf.) Schneid.

Moraceae (Mulberry Family)

Maumee River Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: tree; flowers small, greenish (dioecious); leaves alternate, widest below middle, tapering to sharp tip, shiny green above, paler below; bark furrowed, brownish with orange showing through; twigs hairy or not, with stout spines, milky sap; large green to yellowish fruit; root bark orange; spring to early summer

[V Max Brown, 2005]



# Red Mulberry

*Morus rubra* L. var. *rubra*

Moraceae (Mulberry Family)

University of Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: shrub to medium tree; flowers small, green-yellow, on catkins; leaves ovate but variable from simple to 3-5 lobed, serrate, glossy green above, softly hairy beneath (especially on veins) but variable; bark color variable but often tinted orange; twigs with pores common, milky sap; bud scales with dark margins; fruit red turning purple-black; spring

[V Max Brown, 2005]

