



Project BudBurst

A National Phenology Network Field Campaign for Citizen Scientists



www.budburst.org

Common Name: Lewis' mock orange,
Wild mock orange

Scientific Name: *Philadelphus lewisii*

Plant Family: Hydrangeaceae

Identifying Characteristics:

Size: Perennial-deciduous shrub 1 to 3 m (3 to 10 ft).

Leaves: Leaf arrangement is opposite, leaf shape is generally ovate and 2 to 8 cm long by 2 to 4 cm wide, glabrous to hairy. Each leaf bears three main veins from the base, margin ranges from smooth to toothed.

Flowers: Flowers can appear in clusters of 3-11 at tips of branches. Generally 2 to 3 cm wide with 4-5 white-ivory, round or notched petals and 4-5 sepals. Flower centers contain 25-40 yellow stamens. Fragrance similar to orange blossoms.

Bark: Red-brown, aging gray, peeling as narrow strips or narrow rectangles; twigs glabrous to hairy.

Habitat: Full sun to part shade, well-drained areas, particularly along streams and in rocky slopes and open banks. Moist or rocky slopes, ravines, grasslands, thickets and open woodlands, generally at 2100 m (7000 ft). Oak or pine woodland.

Bloom time: May-July

Did you know? The genus name comes from the Egyptian king Ptolemy Philadelphus (309-247 BC), and the species name honors Meriwether Lewis, who first described the shrub along the Bitterroot River. It is a very popular ornamental shrub in temperate climates due to its intense sweet fragrance that is similar to orange trees. Poulticed or powdered leaves have been used for medicinal or culinary purposes, while the wood has been used for snowshoes and tools/weapons.



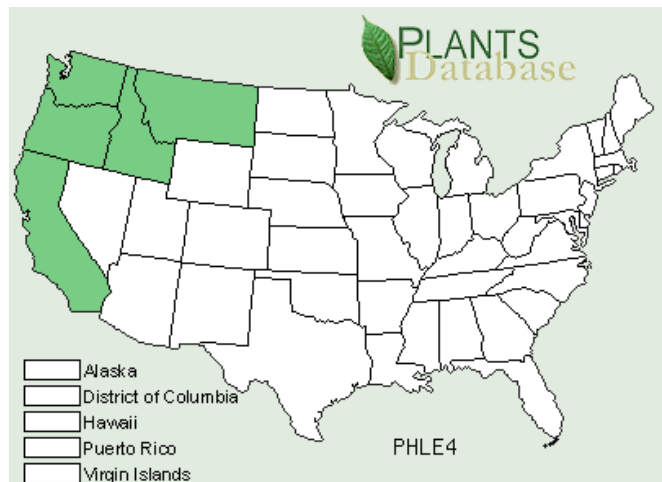
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Phenological observation:
Budburst/First Leaf, First Flower

Distribution Area:



Map courtesy of USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database (plants.usda.gov)