

## *Cornus alba*

### Scientific classification

Kingdom : Plantae  
Clade : Angiosperms  
Order : Cornales  
Family : Cornaceae  
Genus : *Cornus*  
Subgenus : *Cornus* subg. *Kraniopsis*  
Species : *C. alba*



*Cornus alba*

### DESCRIPTION

*Cornus alba* (red-barked, white or Siberian dogwood) is a species of flowering plant in the family Cornaceae, native to Siberia, northern China and Korea. It is a large surculose (suckering) shrub that can be grown as a small tree. As a popular ornamental used in landscaping its notable features include the red stems in fall (autumn) through late winter, the brightest winter bark of any cornus; and the variegated foliage in some cultivars, *C. alba* can grow to 3 m (10 ft) high, but variegated forms are less vigorous. For the brightest winter bark, young shoots are encouraged by cutting to the ground some older stems at the end of the winter, before leaves are open. The oval fruits are white, sometimes tinted blue.

### MEDICINAL USESS

- The fruits were widely used to treat dysentery and diarrhea. About 9 cornus fruits were mixed with some pears and nutshells and a tea was made from these. This remedy was found to be effective for diarrhea.
- An important fact the health benefits and therapeutic uses of cornus is that all the parts of the plant have astringent properties. This is because all the parts of this cornus plant contain tannin.
- A tincture can be made out of either the leaves or the bark of the plant and can be used to treat various ailments such as eczema, skin infections, intestinal parasites, veal skin, and gout and so on.