

How Can I Identify Buckthorn



Thorns

- ♦ short, stout
- ♦ replace terminal bud at tips of stems

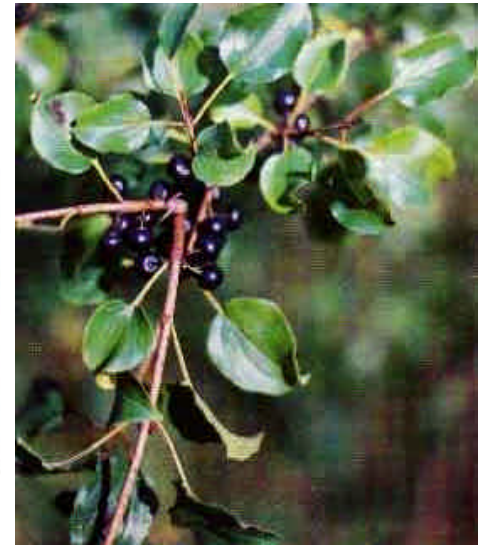
Flowers

- ♦ present in the spring
- ♦ small, yellow-green
- ♦ clustered at base of leaves

Don't confuse buckthorn with trees in the genus *Prunus* (wild cherry, choke cherry)

Bark

- ♦ outer bark = gray
- ♦ inner bark = bright yellow



Fruits

- ♦ on females trees only
- ♦ green early in season
- ♦ turning black later in fall
- ♦ contain 2-4 seeds (like a grape)
- ♦ may hang on tree until March

Choke cherry

- ♦ flowers = pink or white
- ♦ thorns = none
- ♦ fruit = black, with a **single, solid pit**

