

Lewis' mock-orange

Philadelphus lewisii
Hydrangea Family (Hydrangeaceae)

General Description: Tall, multi-stemmed shrub 5 to 15 ft. Found in thickets, woods, forest edges, exposed dry rocky soils, marine bluffs and prairies.

Key Characteristics: Opposite, minuscule buds; triangular "dog face" leaf scar; terminal bud is tiny, narrow and pointed. Bark is dull brown to gray and shreds when older.

Confused With: If young and shorter than 3ft. mock-orange can be confused with snowberry. Also confused with twinberry, which grows in a wetter habitat than mock-orange.

Photo: Joe Bettis